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Next year

Oil billl to be cut

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's foreign exchange burden on import of oil is expected to be less by about 957.5 million dollars in 1981-82 comparing to the current year (1980-81).

An estimated 1.52 million tonnes of crude oil and 4.73 million tonnes of petroleum products would be imported in the next financial year. The total foreign exchange expenditure on these imports at current prices is likely to be 6058 million dollars.

This is against an import of 16.7 million tonnes of crude and 7.98 million tonnes of petroleum products, costing about 7,000 million dollars in 1980-81.

The annual report of the Petroleum Ministry for 1980-81 reveals that the increase in the prices of petroleum products on January 13 is estimated to yield an additional 1,493 million dollars annually as against the additional burden of about 1,529 million dollars caused by the rise in oil prices in the world market.

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) produced 6.408 million tonnes of crude oil -- 3.051 onshore and 3.357 offshore -- during the period April-December 1980. The production in Assam was severely affected due to the disturbed conditions there. During the period, ONGC supplied 737.5 million cubic metres (mcm) of natural gas, against the annual target of 1177 mcm.

Muslims opposed to abortion

New Delhi, (UNI) - Muslims in India are strongly opposed to abortion and less than 50 per cent of them resort to family planning methods, according to a study conducted by Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan and Miss Sajida Ahmed of the University of Agricultural Sciences in the South Indian State of Karnataka.

The research paper presented recently at a seminar in Bangalore found the conservatives as totally opposed to any attempt to restrict the family size whereas the moderates were prepared to restrict the number of children by adopting a method that does not violate the fundamental tenents of Islam. Only the category termed as liberals had a few reservations.

Nearly 250 people were interviewed in the Bangalore and Kolar districts of Karnataka to assess the attitude of Muslims towards family planning. Men were found to be more opposed to family planning than women. The reason advanced by women was that the family planning would enable them to have better health and would result in less financial strain.

The study showed that in towns and villages the percentage of people rejecting family planning was more than in the cities.

The majority of the respondents said that Islam did not permit family planning but they could not substantiate their arguments with evidence from Islamic literature.

The study contended that the encouragement of breast feeding in Islam naturally allowed for a minimum spacing of three years between children.

Keeping in view the Islamic sentiments against birth control through unnatural means the study recommends that the prescribed age of marriage of 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls should be strictly adhered to. Given the Indian drive for family planning the study also recommends that permanent sterilisation should be avoided and Muslims must be educated on this. It also suggests that men doctors should not attend on Muslim women.

Pak wants tea

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's strategy to boost and further expand its trade with countries in the East Asian Region will be reviewed at a meeting of the Heads of Indian Missions and Commercial Representativeds in that region in Kuala Lumpur.

The three-day meeting will be presided over by Indian Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

Indian youth taunt Thatcher

New Delhi, (AP) Apr. 15 - Small Communist demonstrations and angry newspaper editorials condemning Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's racial policies greeted her today when she arrived for a four-day visit to India.

About two dozen noisy youths waved black swatches of cloth and shouted "Go back! Go back!" as Thatcher and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi left the airport.

Several dozen more youth chanted and passed out leaflets as the motorcade reached the presidential palace where the British visitor is staying.

A police official said about 25 people were arrested.

The leaflets, issued by youth organizations affiliated with the Communist parties, condemned legislation sponsored by Thatcher's government to restrict non-white immigration to Britain and her support for the supplying of American arms to Pakistan. They also accused her of opposition to making the Indian Ocean a "zone of peace."

Gandhi in a welcoming speech noted that "there are many problems between us" but expressed the hope that her visitor's welcome to India will be "as warm as the weather."

Replying, the British leader noted the joint heritage and continuing special relationship of India and Britain and said: "I want my visit to open a still more fruitful chapter in our countries' long relationship.

Sikh family attacked

Retaliation threatened

Winnipeg - Fifty East Indians discussed taking the law into their own hands recently because the suburban home of an East Indian family has been the target of rock throwing, obscene grafitti and burning rolled-up newspapers, and they don't feel police are doing enough about it.

Pritpul Kaur Manhas, a nurse who came to Canada 14 years ago, said junior high school students often yell "Paki" and throw stones at her and her five-year-old boy as she takes him to kindergarten.

"Fifteen to 20 times we called the police and we caught some children throwing eggs and mud but the police didn't do anything.

"The girls, teen-agers, bother us so much," she said in her new home, as other members of the Sikh community met in her basement.

Kuldip Singh, the owner of a restaurant specializing in East Indian food, told the others that Sikhs have fought before and are willing to fight again.

"We contacted the police and nothing happened. If the law doesn't protect us, we have to do something else to protect us. That's what our religion says," he said.

Inspector Douglas Hicks of the Winnipeg police department said that he has no record of the number of times the family has complained because of what he termed "a faulty reporting system," in which cruisers are dispatched and records of minor incidents are not kept. "Frankly, I think the system should be changed. I checked our files on this matter and found nothing."

By Brian Gory

Bupinder Dhillon, who was at the meeting said: "All Canadians are outsiders. Who came first and who came later, doesn't matter."

He said the community has to be educated about the fact that all Canadians or their ancestors were immigrants at some time.

Dark-skinned people are subjected to various insults from time to time, people at the meeting said. "but," said Mr. Singh, "when they start attacking us, we have to do something about it."

He said Winnipeg has been the least racist of major Canadian cities and therefore many Sikhs have immigrated here. He said he lived for a time in Vancouver and found the tolerance much lower than it was in Winnipeg but now something has to be done.

"If we have to, we will fight."

They believe most of the ill will comes from school children.

Last year, large, gasoline-soaked crosses wrapped in burlap were burned on the lawns of four dark-skinned families.

Two were East Indian and a third was West Indian, but it was later learned the burnings were in response to the Iranian seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

Several teen-age boys were brought to trial charged with mischief but the judge dismissed their actions as being not so much racist, but instead the result of unsatisfactory education.

Name-calling is very common, said some of the people last night, but they merely walk away from it.

Mr. Singh said the group will likely approach the mayor and chief of police to demand better policing and improved education on the issue.

[The Globe and Mail]

Pavement library for villages

New Delhi, (UNI) - A unique pavement library movement was launched on Sunday March 29 by some villagers and social workers at Pira Ghari, a sleepy little village on the western outskirts of Delhi.

The movement here forms part of a three-point programme of the social workers here against the evil of dowry (payment of money and gifts by bride's parents to bridegroom as precondition for marriage) use of gold ornaments and propagation of education at the grass-roots. It aims at covering about 200 villages in Delhi by the close of the current year.

The austere function at Pira Ghari was organised to inaugurate the first library, containing popular newspapers and periodicals published in English and Hindi.

WINDOW ON PAKISTAN

Samuel Baid from New Delhi

Threat of videos

Already neck-deep in crisis, the Pakistani film industry is facing a new threat: videos, hitherto smuggled into the country, are now being made locally.

These videos are used for recording films running in cinema houses and then shown on television in the comfort of homes, hotels and other convenient places. As a consequence, cinema houses lose their revenue.

A number of cinema houses in different cities of Pakistan have already been converted into shopping centres which, the owners believe, are more paying. This situation arose because the people would rather see a smuggled video of Indian film than their own Pakistani stuff, although many Pakistani film producers and actors claim there is little difference between the two. Pakistan's top actor Mohammad Ali, now under detention, had (according to the Dawn of Karachi) once suggested that the two countries should jointly produce films and that would help the Pakistani film industry.

No fair sex

Women are fast vanishing from ads in Pakistani newspapers. Where an advertiser cannot do without them, he has to make sure that no man is around (in the picture). Or, if that cannot be helped, the models of man and woman should be kept at a respectable distance from each other.

Thus, if a sweet-maker advertises a new product, or an old one for that matter, he must keep content with the picture of the product nicely wrapped, without a matching sweet face. And so does the advertiser of a "home, sweet home" without the visual of its warmth and life as symbolised by womankind. However, many garment advertisers still make use of both male and female models. But such ads are very few and mostly unisex.

The present Government has instructed advertisers not to show women in western clothes (without their heads covered) standing too close to male models. In addition to these restrictions, fewer girls are coming out for modelling.

But what about the film ads? Artists in newspaper offices have an extra duty to perform nowadays: they have to blacken the bare parts of an actress' body in the ad. In some cases the artist also has to put a chaddar on her head!

Cassette culture

If bad coin can drive out good coin, so can bad music drive out good music. This is a phenomenon lovers of classical music are helplessly watching in Pakistan. The current storm of pop music is threatening to uproot classical music once and for all. The pre-partition (1947) generation, which loved classical music, is disappearing and the post-Partition generation finds it too boring to devote to the rigours of classical music. This generation is soaked in pop music and singers of classical music, like melody queen Nur Jahan, fear that the end of classical music is very near in Pakistan.

What has greatly contributed to the popularity of pop music with the younger generation is its easy availability, thanks to cassettes which have been flooding Pakistani shops. Last year the Urdu daily, Imroze had strongly advocated that the Government put a ban on the sale of cassettes. In the meantime a flourishing industry of unauthorised cassette recording has emerged. Thus singers and musicians are deprived of their royalty.

World's largest crocodile

New Delhi (UNI) - The largest scientifically recorded crocodile measured 7.35 metres and lived in the mangrove swamps of the deltaic region of Cuttack in the Eastern Indian State of Orissa.

It was shot dead like other crocodiles in the region, according to the FAO expert on salt-water crocodiles, Dr. H.R. Bustard, who was in India recently lending help to the joint Indo-UNDP "Crocodile Project" at the Bhitar Kanika Sanctuary in Orissa.

There is only one crocodile alive in the sanctuary which measures seven metres. And it is a male.

It is said that difference in sizes distinguishes a male from a female. Whereas a male would measure seven metres, the female would measure anywhere between two and four metres but it is only rarely that it reaches the length of four metres.

Bhitar Kanika Sanctuary is considered ideal for the nation-wide 'crocodile project', which is trying to save the salt-water crocodile from extinction.

Eggs are collected before they can be preyed upon, babies are reared in captivity and when they reach the length of about 1.2 metres, they are returned to the ideal habitat of the sanctuary. In this way, the crocodiles are saved from being either preyed upon or hunted by man.

Dr. Bustard is of the opinion that the problem of encroachment still prevails in India. Last year about 600 acres were encroached upon in this forest alone, which led to illegal felling of trees.

"India will be poorer without Bhitar Sanctuary and it should not be allowed to disappear", Dr. Bustard told a reporter.

The sanctuary also hosts many endangered species like the Water Monitor (India's largest lizard) and the Olive Ridley Sea Turtles.

An overview of Indian census

New Delhi, (UNI) - What has recently concluded in India -- the counting of heads and gathering of domestic data for both individual and common good -- is truly the biggest basic exercise undertaken in democratic planning anywhere in the world: population census.

The provisional population results recently released by the Census Commission of India relate to the country's 15th census. The latest census also has a special significance. It marks the 100th year of decennial synchronous census in the country.

The 1981 census has cost the exchequer Rs 400 million -- about 70 paise for every man, woman and child. The census operation involved as many as 1.25 million enumerators for covering 130 million households (excluding Assam and Jammu and Kashmir, which have been left out at the request of the State Governments).

The current census has been described as the greatest venture of its kind in the world, as China, the most populous country, has not conducted any census since 1959.

The first census on an all-India basis is said to have been conducted in 1872, although a census was proposed but not carried out some 15 years earlier, shortly before the Indian uprising in 1857, when the country was a part of the British empire. Many Indian States were left out in the 1872 count, and the enumeration was non-synchronous.

The first synchronous and regular census on the modern system was organised on February 17, 1881 and since then it has been a regular decennial process.

Planning

The planning for the 1981 census began as early as 1978. A nucleus office in every State and Union Territory was expanded and the Directors of Census Operations came into position. Draft questionnaires were made on the basis of the past experiences, current need and international recommendations.

The new census is designed to focus attention on problems of the youth, to secure a clear picture of the housing situation, to throw light on fertility and map the pattern of population migration. The enumeration also took into account the physically handicapped.

The number of married couples in the household, details of the person employed and statistics of age, sex and religion were the main areas covered in the 16 basic questions asked to the individual. An addition of six questions were also asked to a select 20 per cent of the population on their place of birth, last residence and reasons for migration.

The fourth census began on February 9, 1981, and the President of India, Sanjiva Reddy, was the first citizen to be enumerated.

Remote Areas:

But the population count had already begun last September. Remote areas including hilly areas of the Northern country, had to be covered before the fall of snow. Enumeration has yet to be taken in the States of Assam and Jammu and Kashmir. Hence, the provisional total is not a complete picture as of sunrise on March 1, 1981. The final picture will appear in 1983 when both the states would have been covered. The North-eastern State of Assam is expected to account for 21 million and the Northern State of Jammu and Kashmir six million population.

The census is almost carried out through the machinery of the State and Union Territories and through local bodies under the State Governments. The enumerators are school teachers and Central and State Government employees.

On an average, each enumerator covered 600 to 750 people.

With the latest count available, the evaluatory survey to determine the accuracy of the census and in estimating the content and coverage errors will be done by the Post Enumeration Survey and the Census Evaluation Study.

Asian games in colour

New Delhi, (UNI) - A move is afoot to set up an indigenous colour transmission system for televising the Asian Games for viewing in foreign countries.

An inter-ministerial meeting, held recently under the aegis of the Indian Information and Broadcasting Ministry, decided that the cost of implementing this scheme would be around five million dollars.

They were of the view that the transmission system could be set up in India if work on it began from mid-April.

This is an alternative to the several proposals made to foreign companies for selling transmission rights which were turned down, because the offers given by India were not profitable to them.

It was also argued at home that colour transmission would become meaningless once the games were over, and the country did not have internal colour television transmission and reception facilities.

It was suggested at the meeting that vans could be stationed on the Bangladesh and Pakistan borders to transmit Indian programmes to those countries. This would be received back by Indian sets in black and white, if the country decides not to switch over to colour transmission.

World Bank loan for exploration

New Delhi, (UNI) - The World Bank has agreed to provide a loan of 200 million dollars for offshore oil exploration in the Godavari basin in Southern India which may, in the opinion of oil experts, turn out to be another Bombay High, reports Financial Express.

According to authoritative sources, the World Bank President, Robert Mc Namara, during his discussions here with the Petroleum Minister, P.C. Sethi, has made a commitment on behalf of the World Bank to this effect.

The Government is also seriously examining a proposal for inviting foreign oil companies to assist the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) as consultants for the exploration and development of the Godavari offshore basin. ONGC has already found hydrocarbon shows in the Godavari structures.

However, because of the difficult nature of drilling in the Godavari basin, ONGC has not been able to show much progress in this area. ONGC recently lost some of its equipment in the seas while engaging in exploration. Foreign consultancy, as in Bombay High, is, therefore considered necessary to speed up exploration in Godavari and produce oil, if found, in as short a time as possible.

Because of the promising nature of the oil structures in Godavari, some foreign firms, which recently have shown interest in oil exploration in India, have sought allotment of this area to them. The Indian Government, however, has decided not to hand over the Godavari basin to any foreign parties and ONGC will continue to be in charge of this area. Foreign companies will be brought in only to assist ONGC.

Meanwhile, the Government has told the French petroleum company, CFP, that it would not be able to give a share of the incremental crude in Bombay High to the company for technical assistance in stepping up oil production in Bombay High from the targeted 12 million tonnes of 17 million tonnes or more by 1982.

MAHARASHTRA SEEKS GULF AID IN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

New Delhi, (UNI) - A high-level delegation from the West Indian State of Maharashtra visited the Gulf countries in the first week of April to seek financial participation in new industrial projects in the State.

A project profile consisting of eight projects in high-tension insulators, caustic soda, blended yarn and burnt dolomite, is being prepared

Muslims fo new body

New Delhi, (UNI) - A new organisation of Muslims, known as the Islamic Council of India, has been formed to promote cultural and economic uplift of Muslims and establish fraternal ties with the Islamic Ummah abroad.

The council, which professes to be non-political and non-sectarian, came into being on March 22 at a meeting attended by prominent Muslims drawn from various political parties and Muslim social and cultural organisations.

Maulana Qari Mohammad Tayyab Qasmi, rector of the Darul Uloom, Deoband, is the council president, and Mohammed Yunus Saleem, Congress-U leader, the General Secretary. Mohammed Shafi Qureshi, also of the Congress-U has been appointed Secretary.

The Council will have three Vice-Presidents, Maulana Sayeed Ahmad Akbarabadi, Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait, member of parliament and president of the Indian Union Muslim League, and Prince Anjum Qadar, President of the All India Shia Conference.

A resolution adopted at the meeting said that the educational, social and economic backwardness of Indian Muslims was assuming alarming dimensions and their cultural identity was facing "unprecedented and continuous threats."

Gem mining i

Cochin, (UNI) - There are gem-bearing areas in various parts of Trivandrum District in Kerala. According to a recent study of the Geological Survey of India, Neyyattinkara, Vellanad, Nedumangad and Venjara moodu are the main centres where gems are found. For quite some time, illegal mining has been going on in these areas and costliest varieties of chrysoberyl namely alexandrite and cat's eye, which fetch over 20,000 dollars per carat in foreign markets, are being sold at throwaway prices by the illegal miners. Businessmen from India and abroad have been found to have purchased the precious stones from the

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The objectives of the Islamic Council will be to seek an atmosphere of communal harmony, promote national integration in its true sense and establish effective rapport between Indian Muslims and the rest of the Islamic Ummah.

Mr. Saleem told newsmen that the Islamic Council, without any membership regulations, will function as a forum to voice the problems of the Muslims. Any Muslim, irrespective of the organisation he belonged to, could take part in its activities.

He said the Council will undertake an economic and educational survey of Muslims and devise ways and means to improve facilities for them in this regard.

Asked from where the funds would come, Mr. Saleem said there was no dearth of money in this country. Indian Muslim residents abroad could also be approached for help in this effort.

Asked whether the Islamic Council would accept donations from foreign countries, he said "we will neither seek nor depend on such money." However, he added that the matter would be reconsidered.

Mr. Saleem said the Council planned to start an English language newspaper to focus on the problems of Muslims in the country.

Gem mining in Kerala

Cochin, (UNI) - There are gem bearing areas in various parts of Trivandrum District in Kerala. According to a recent study of the Geological Servey of India, Neyyattinkara, Vellanad, Nedumangad and Venjaramoodu are the main centres where gems are found. For quite some time, illegal mining has been going on in these areas and costliest varieties of chrysoberyl namely alexandrite and cat's eye, which fetch over 20,000 dollars per carat in foreign markets, are being sold at throwaway prices by the illegal miners. Businessmen from India and abroad have been found to have purchased the precious stones from the miners. An expert team from Hong Kong, a leading precious stone market in the world, is also reported to have visited Trivandrum and shown interest in the mining operations.

Following reports of illegal mining, the State Mining and Geology Department raided the area last week and confiscated equipments used for mining. Cases against as many as 100 persons were lodged under the Mines and Miners Act for their alleged involvement in the illegal mining.

Meanwhile, the Kerala State Department of Mining and Geology has drawn the attention of the State Government to the study of the Geological Survey of India

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Dacoit's pose problem

Gwalior, (UNI) - Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in India have mounted a co-ordinated operation to track down dacoit gangs.

The operation is described as the biggest of its kind so far. Rajasthan, which was also to join the operation, has not yet done so.

Interviews with police and district officials showed considerable scepticism about the operation succeeding in eradicating the dacoit menace.

The main reason for this is the popular support and political patronage many of the gangs enjoy.

Other complicating factors are a flourishing illegal arms sale, a ready market for stolen property and the nature of the Chambal terrain, the area used as hideouts by the dacoit gangs.

A police official who did not wish to be identified said, "a malkhan Singh or a Pan Singh (two of the dreaded dacoits) may be caught or killed but this will not stamp out the dacoit menace."

Several police officials said the surrender of a large number of dacoit gangs nine years ago was widely seen as an end of the scourge. But hopes were belied within years as new gangs took the place of those that surrendered.

Almost every gang has its own army of informers and supporters, besides sympathisers in politics and the administration.

Madho Singh who surrendered in 1972, told the authorities "we had more friends than foes in the areas where we operated."

The Madhya Pradesh police have built a network of informers to report the movements of dacoit gangs.

These informers are paid from a "secret fund."

But many officials admit that these informers have been of little help. They either find no information or do not report fearing reprisal.

Dacoit leader Pan Singh recently killed five villagers who he suspected to be informers.

"The lack of intelligence is a serious handicap in anti-dacoit operation," a senior police officer said.

The political influence the dacoit gangs command comes from their ability to mobilise votes during elections.

A senior police official said: "Dacoits and their gang leaders take a lot of interest in elections, particularly in the Chambal valley (in Madhya Pradesh) and the bordering crime-prone districts.

Investment liberalisation

Good response to change

New Delhi, (UNI) - With the Indian Government's recent liberalisation of the terms for foreign investment in hotels, several multi-national hotel chains have started moving in.

Some large Indian business houses have applied to the Government for permission to diversify into hoteliering in collaboration with well-known international hotel chains, according to a national English daily here.

The Indian Government recently had approved a proposal to allow the hotel industry to have collaboration with international hotel chains for the specific purpose of sales and marketing abroad and not for management of the hotels.

The new guidelines permit 30 per cent equity participation to "internationally known" hotel chains for four and five star hotels in India. Investors from the Gulf region are allowed up to 40 per cent equity participation.

Besides, these hotel chains can advance loans of up to 50 per cent of the project cost to their Indian partners, while Gulf parties can advance the total amount left after equity participation.

Though the new guidelines specify collaboration only for marketing and sales abroad, the other clauses are so liberal that foreign hotel chains will be allowed to design, plan and equip the hotels, as well as lend their brand name in return for lump-sum payments for such "services".

The foreign collaborator will be allowed to repatriate his capital with appreciation, the loaned principal with interest as well as divident and other payments.

Under the new rules, the collaborator will be allowed commission only on room revenue, and not a percentage on the gross revenue as is presently the case.

The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation feels that the investment terms had to be liberalised to attract foreign money for building hotels in India. The Ministry has drawn up a plan to add 40,000 additional hotel rooms to cater to 5.5 million tourists by the end of 1990.

The Government's intentions are clear, because the guidelines specify that the collaborations can be allowed only with "renowned international hotel chains" and only for constructing four and five star hotels and resorts in India.

The half a dozen collaboration agreements presently in force between some major hotels are mainly Franchise agreements with no equity involvement.

Singapore exhibition

Display of Indian goods

Singapore (UNI) - The entire spectrum of India's industrial development is being displayed at the ten-day Trade Exhibition organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India at the World Trade Centre which opened here on March 26.

Over 100 leading industrial and trading establishments from all over India are participating in the exhibition.

The display covers a wide range of products, including heavy and light engineering, commercial vehicles, chemical and allied products, agricultural and processed foods, textiles, handicraft and machine tools.

Opening the exhibition, Mohammad Yunus, Chairman of the Trade Fair Authority, said the display was a reflection of India's keen desire to forge closer trade relations with Singapore and other countries in the region.

Mr. Yunus said that although India's agreements with countries in the region facilitated gradual diversification of two way commerce, large potemial existed for further promotion.

The exhibition would provide a glimpse of India's industrial development, technological strides. The accent was on the new manufacturing sectors — engineering and chemicals — which constitutes the principal and potential lines of imports in the region, he said.

Urdu academy demanded

New Delhi, (UNI) - Urdu is not getting a fair deal in the city of Ghalib and Zauq, said Mirza Mohammad Usman, convener of the "Delhi Urdu Academy Mutalba Committee".

At a press conference here on March 27 Mirza Usman demanded that the government make an announcement regarding the setting up of an Urdu academy in Delhi.

The Lieut.-Governor, Jagmohan, had initiated the move in this connection. He had convened a number of meetings of high officials of Delhi Administration, showing his sincerity towards the cause of the Urdu academy, Mirza Usman said.

He also pointed out that in one of these meetings attended by the officials of the Planning Commission, it was accepted in principle that an Urdu academy be set up in Delhi.

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BEING ORGANISED

People of Indian origin in Canada, though doing relatively well economically, seem to have a lot to learn as far as organizational matters relating to our social activities are concerned.

First of all the importance of time is yet to be appreciated. The vast majority of meetings organized by our group does not start on time. The relaxed and casual Indian ways are still prevalent during such occasions.

Secondly most such functions are poorly planned. No one seems to take the time to think ahead, to see that what has to happen does happen without confusion and waste of time. Even when some plans are prepared they are poorly executed. The diligence and dedication of the people who are involved will pay handsome dividends if only the planning aspect is looked after.

All these become embarrassing when we invite people from outside our community for our social functions. The chaos and confusion reigning supreme on such occasions make the visitor (VIP or not) to our get-together feel that we are a bunch of incompetent people who really do not know how to organize ourselves properly. (Of course, this is not an argument for not inviting VIPs for our functions; what is being suggested is to improve the organizational aspect of our meetings.

Having to face a non-attentive audience can not only be very insulting and frustrating experience for the guest speaker but also a very poor and rude way of treating a guest.

In this country we can observe how well even a Sunday school picnic is organized. There is no excuse for a well-educated, intelligent and well-to-do community such as ours to have our social functions in such utter confusion.

A very determined effort is required to assure: decency and decorum to our social functions.

India and Pakistan

The new American administration is shopping around the Persian Gulf area for a new, strong ally to stop the Soviet advance toward the West's main oil source.

Reports indicate that President Reagan is seriously considering making Pakistan the new Iran - the West's bastion on the Persian Gulf - by sending major military aid to the Zia dictatorship.

If the President is considering this course of action, he may be building a bastion on quicksand and creating another Iran, not of a friendly Shah, but of a raging ayatollah.

While a Pakistani alliance would have compelling advantages, there are some fearful flaws basic to the idea.

If the unpopular Gen. Zia fell, Pakistan's pro-Western stance might collapse with it. The Soviets could also use any American intervention as an excuse for more military meddling throughout the region.

And equally important, a buildup of modern weapons in Pakistan would antagonize India. While the Soviets have spent the past 25 years methodically increasing their influence and ties with India, the U.S. has never given India a serious place in its foreign policy, preferring instead to keep relations with this sleeping giant on the cool side.

However, despite the extensive Soviet effort to win over India, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has shown clearly that she has no intention of falling whole-heartedly into the Soviet camp.

Mrs. Gandhi has tried to steer the country on an independent course by playing East off against West, without becoming a puppet of either.

The Indian prime Minister recently illustrated once again that she has no real liking for Marxism - at least in India. She launched an offensive against Marxism, seeking to turn back the gains made by the popularly elected Marxist Front leaders in the province of West Bengal and the state of Tripura. She clearly doesn't intend to let her Congress Party lose out to the Marxists.

The new American administration should take note carefully that Mrs. Gandhi does not follow any strict ideological line. She is more interested in expediency than in philosophy.

If the Americans decide to arm India's old enemy, Pakistan, it will force Mrs. Gandhi further into the Soviet camp. She will have little choice but to accept more Soviet arms with the usual strings attached - in order to counter the increased Pakistani strength.

However, if the U.S. decides to pay more positive attention to India, it could help Mrs. Gandhi keep India on a middle-of-the-road international course. And friendly relations with the West could also help India's economic development.

A strong and independent India is one of the West's best defences against Soviet expansion in the potentially explosive Indian sub-continent.

An American decision to fully support Pakistan would be a dangerous gamble that could backfire and turn into a nightmare even worse than the American experience with Iran.

[The Spectator, Hamilton]

Gulf immigrants demand ministry

Trivandrum, (UNI) - Indian immigrants in the Gulf, whose annual remittances go to bolster the nation's depleting foreign exchange resources, have asked for the creation of a separate Union Ministry to attend to their problems.

In a memorandum, drawn up by the representatives of the Kerala Muslim cultural centres in Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, and presented to the Centre through the State Governor, the immigrants also demanded that they be provided facilities to vote in Indian elections.

They suggested that each Indian embassy in the Gulf region should set up a cultural centre with a library and a community hall with facilities to enable the expatriates to do correspondence course to improve their job prospects.

They wanted the embassies to be empowered to deal with the local Governments and employers to secure adequate compensation for affected immigrant workers in the event of premature termination of contract or accident.

It was suggested that arrangements might be made to enable the expatriates to cast their votes through the embassies, as in the case of officials posted abroad.

The other demands outlined in the memorandum included construction of housing colonies for families of Indians abroad, priority in allocation of cement to them against remittances from abroad and reservation of seats in educational institutions for their children.

It was suggested that each embassy should have at least one responsible official with a knowledge of Malayalam as the majority of the immigrants spoke Malayalam.

While discussing the problems encountered by immigrants with regard to travel and customs clearance, they demanded a reduction in the air fares and the establishment of an international airport at Kozhikode.

They wanted the customs duty to be lowered from 320 per cent to 120 per cent and the freight allowance to be raised on goods worth 250 dollars in the case of passengers who were away for one year and 625 dollars in the case of those away for two years.

Drawing the Government's attention to a growing tendency among expatriate employees to invest their savings in foreign banks which offered far more favourable terms than banks in India, they said the Government must analyse the reasons and take necessary measures to attract them to Indian banks.

They asked the Central and State Governments to encourage Indians abroad to establish industries by providing them the necessary fzcilities.

Immigrant women ignored

By Dorothy Lipovenko

Immigrant women often have been left, isolated, ignored and neglected while their spouses and children are given priority by Canadian society, James Fleming, Minister of State for Multiculturalism, said.

Speaking at the first federally sponsored conference on immigrant women, Mr. Fleming praised these women, Canada's "silent heroines," and their sacrifices that put the interests of their families first.

"(But) surely it's as important for the Greek woman to learn English so that she can escape a low-paying, dead-end job and communicate with her children as it is for her husband," Mr. Fleming said, adding that it's equally "as important to convince the immigrant garment worker that she has every right to join a union as it is to give her spouse that security."

Referring to the large number of immigrant women employed in the textile and garment industries, the minister noted that only 40 per cent of the industries' workers are unionized.

"One wonders if provincial labor relations acts are truly protecting women in the workplace," he said.

More tan 150 delegates from across the country were invited by Ottawa to participate in the conference. They include community workers involved with agencies helping immigrant women, union organizers and federal and provincial labor, health and immigration officials.

The conference will cost the federal Government about $110,000.

Delegates appear determined not to let their proposals gather dust or fall on deaf ears, as has happened in the past. Although none of the participants had any questions for Mr. Fleming after he concluded his address, the women said later they hoped their suggestions would be heeded by the government agencies responsible.

Among the problems most immigrant women face, as highlighted, are:

* Exploitation as cheap unskilled or semi-skilled labor, including being forced to work long hours for salaries below the minimum wage.
* Racist discrimination from some immigration officials.
* Inadequate or no access to language training programs.
* Poor opportunities for education and employment training that would release them from ghetto jobs in the garment and service industries.

Barbara Jackman, a Toronto immigration lawyer, told delegates that immigrant women whose marriages break down face terrible hardship.

She recalled cases where women sought welfare because their husbands withdrew their sponsorship when the marriage ended. Welfare officials refused to help until a woman in this predicament could produce a letter from immigration officers verifying that her marriage was over. "Immigration refuses to enforce the sponsorship contracts their husbands entered into and the women are unable to work because they are not landed immigrants," Miss Jackman said. "There are too many of these cases happening."

She said many of these women are forced to seek help from women's shelters and hostels.

Conference organizers are eager to publicize the problems of immigrant women but were reluctant to allow media coverage at some of their workshops. At a major workshop yesterday dealing with immigrant women in the labor force, participants refused to permit their discussions to be quoted other than as "background."

India's ma God

"The Manifestations of Shiva": Sacred Art of the Hindus

By Paul Richard

You are woman. You are man.
You are the youth and the maiden, too...
You are the dark-blue bird..
You are the seasons and the seas.
Having no beginning, you are everywhere...
You from whom all worlds are born.
Svetasvatara Upanisad, 4.3 4.

He is Shiva of the many arms and of the countless names. He is Shiva the creator, the preserver, the destroyer. He is terrible, immovable, musical and playful. "Manifestations of Shiva," an exhibit of his images, goes on view at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The museum calls it "the largest and most important exhibition of the art of India ever held in the United States." Though not wholly free of sacrilege and show biz, it is a sacred display. True, many of its 192 old and priceless treasures were stolen by colonials from the temples of the Hindus. And it is accompanied, as such shows tend to be, by perhaps excessive hoopla - glossy publications, television specials, concerts and the rest. Yet its spirit is unlike that of most blockbuster exhibits. What sets it apart is its sincere piety. Its subject is not art, treasure or history, but a complex living god.

The figures on exhibit, carved or cast or painted with the tiniest of brushes, may appear at first glimpse too disparate, too various, to represent one god. Here are beings with four heads, or five or sometimes six. Here are large stone bulls in bliss and giant painted rats, grinning skulls and serpents and full-breasted dancing maidens torn from the stone walls of old Indian temples. Here, too, is Shiva's holy family: the beauteous Parvati, the consort of the god; and her son.

"Shiva's unifying spirit, his oneness in variety, becomes gradually apparent as one wanders through this show..."

Ganesa, Lord of Obstacles, whose belly is as big as that of jolly old St. Nick, but whose human body bears the head of a one-tusked elephant. And Shiva, the Abode of Bliss, is manifest in all of them.

The art of Christianity is, at least to Western eyes, vastly less perplexing. Christ may be portrayed as an infant or a victim, but he has only two arms, and when he shows up as a lamb we read that beast as symbol. Hindu art is different. Despite its fluid grace, most Westerners regard it as multiplex, mysterious, impenetrably alien - because the great gods of the Hindus easily assume a variety of avatars, physical embodiments. This show of many

India's many-splendored God

"The Manifestations of Shiva": Sacred Art of the Hindus

By Paul Richard

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His shape-shifting, his changing names, his arcane numerologies, may initially confuse, but Shiva's unifying spirit, his oneness in variety, becomes gradually apparent as one wanders through this show.

No god adored today has been worshipped longer. Some 5,000 years before the birth of Christ, Shiva was already incarnate in the lingas, the holy pillars carved by his devotees of metal, wood or stone. No image of the god is more sacred than the linga. A set of these phalluses, one carved of mottled sandstone 1,800 years ago, is included in this show.

Shiva is as wild as he is restrained. Once he spent 1,000 years making love to Parvati, yet did not spill his seed. For Shiva, the great lover, is the supreme ascetic, Yoga Daksinamurti, the Lord of the Yogis. In one Kodumbulur granite here, carved in the 10th century, he sits beneath a banyan tree teaching silence to the sages. One way to the One is through yogic discipline, and in many of the statues here the god expands his chest, and holds his breath forever, in total self-control.

Though stillness, he is movement. We see his stillness in the linga, the stationary pillar, which is daily clothed, perfumed and anointed in the inner sanctums of countless Indian temples. Yet he dances, too. In one small sandstone panel here carved in the 8th century he dances with such verve that his face, his back and his raised foot all face toward the viewer. Shiva, Lord of Dancers, dances all creation; he is the movement of the sun and moon, of all that is in flux.

Nowhere here is his many-ness more amusingly displayed than in one of the 18th-century miniatures from Rajasthan. Shiva manifests himself as Ardhanarisvara, the Lord Whose Half Is Woman. Nandin, the bull on which he rides, his sacred conveyance, appears as many, too. Its graceful body calls to mind the "composed heads" of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, the 16th-century Italian, for its hooves are rabbit heads, its tail is a tiger's, its hump a lion's head.

Shiva contradicts, often very playfully, all our expectations. In many of his paintings he wears precious jewels, yet in an awesome sandstone fragment from Madhya Pradesh, he is the Supreme Beggar, Bhiksatana, who wanders as a mendicant, naked and alone. The flexion of his body could not be more beautiful -- or more Indian.

A Symphony of curvings, of graceful sinuosities perfected through millennia, bring order to this show.

Yet the beauty of the god does not overwhelm. It is balanced by his ugliness. In one painted dancer's headpiece here - 41 inches high and weighing perhaps 50 pounds - he is wreathed in writhing cobras as fanged Bhairava, god of dread and terror. Often he appears well-fed, but in one startling marble, carved in the 10th century and sent here from Gujarat, he appears as a skeleton garlanded with skulls.

"Shiva is," says Stella Kramrisch, "the most human of all gods." Without Kramrisch, the Philadelphia Museum's distinguished curator of Indian art, this show would not exist. She is 85 years old, but one would never guess it. She wrote the standard text on the Hindu Temple, and is writing still. Her newest book, "The Presence of Shiva," will be published soon by the Princeton University Press. One hears in her voice the accents of old Vienna and a trace of Oxford and an almost Indian sweetness. When she speaks of Shiva, one can almost see him dance:

"If he makes you smile, do not be upset. For he is truly playful. He assumes his many guises as an actor might. He convenes the cosmic play, and is at once director, stage manager and star. He is the master of the arts. There are 64 of them, and one of them is cooking. When he first appeared, Shiva was a hunter, and he has not lost his cunning. He is the lord of the devious, of murderers and thieves. He holds out his hands so that we may grasp them. In India today, he has perhaps 250 million devotees."

Many of the objects in her exhibition have been lent by state collections in India and Nepal. They are modestly displayed. There is a hall of pictures here, and plain galleries of sculpture whose only decorations are green plants. Yet this show is far from simple. Museum exhibitions frequently appear to tear objects made for worship from their sacred contexts. But Kramrisch has refused that path. These objects have not been stripped of holiness.

Here is her description of a 4th-century carving from the Ashmolean at Oxford: "Elemental power, controlled and concentrated, informs its every plane and curve. Severe and serene meditation is conveyed by half-open eyes... Abdicating all sensuality, the austere forehead and eyes are in command of the full-cheeked face. Compassion and detachment hover around the lips...This head is indwelt by Shiva's power; it is the god's true likeness." This is not the prose of a scholar only, but that of a devotee who has come to know a god.

Grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Atlantic Richfield, The Pew Memorial Trust, Air India and the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Education and Culture helped pay for the exhibit. "Manifestations of Shiva" will travel to Fort Worth, Seattle and Los Angeles after closing in Philadelphia on June 7.

(Washington Post)

Child marriages continue

New Delhi, (UNI) - In many parts of India, the law against child marriages is circumvented in order to conform to traditional Hindu beliefs, but it is in the largest and most populous State, Uttar Pradesh that violations of the law are perhaps more numerous than elsewhere.

A recent survey of the English daily, National Herald, shows that many in the village areas are unaware that a law (known as the Sarda Act) passed by the Indian Parliament as long ago as 1929 prohibits the marriage of girls under 16 years of age and boys under 18. The law remains on paper. No serious effort is made to enforce it.

The Harijan and Social Welfare Department, which is running innumerable schemes for the welfare of children, has surprisingly overlooked the need to curb child marriages, which are being solemnised openly, in the villages and among the weaker sections of society. The law is flouted blatantly.

The officials, on being contacted, pleaded their ignorance. They, however, felt that the enforcement of the Sarda Act is the work of the Home Department.

As child marriage is not a cognizable offence, the police are reluctant to take any concrete action to check it. According to an official of the department, unless a complaint is lodged with the police no step is taken to stop it. In the villages where no one is averse to marriages of this kind, the prime question which crops up is "who would complain to whom?". It is either tradition or a ritual for these village folks.

In a small village, Bhadurpur, the girls are married by the time they attain the age of 15. There is no minimum or maximum age, even infants are united in wedlock. However, such cases are rare. These are reported mostly from the eastern districts of the state, according to the villagers.

The main reason for child marriage is social security. The fear that the girl might cross her teenage and marriage might pose a problem for the parents grips most of the rural fold. They feel that parents would not only have to give more dowry but would have to literally hunt for grooms. Besides this custom has a great bearing on economic conditions. A farmer is rarely confident of a good crop. Hence, the general tendency is to marry off their offsprings in a bumper crop year.

The women of the village offer different reasons for child marriages, no privacy in the house and chances of their exploitation by village youngsters.

Child marriages are generally responsible for the population growth, female ill-health and maternal and child mortality. In Uttar Pradesh according to Dr. J.N. Saxena of Lucknow University, the decline in percentage of child marriages during the decade has been nominal (10.37 per cent). The average for the state works out to 50.09 per cent with about 30 districts falling below this percentage and 24 districts falling above it.

The order of incidence is least in Dehradun, Garhwal, Meerut, Bijnor, Lucknow and Bulandshahr, whereas it is the highest in Banda Gorakpur, Basti, Gonda, Jaunpur Azamgarh, Sultanpur and Faizabad (Eastern U.P.).

According to a report, the mini mum decline was registered from 191 to 71 in Basti (0.97 per cent) and the maximum was in Bahraich (21.30 per cednt).

Dr. D.N. Saxena, of Lucknow University, tried to seek the reaction of rural people to the upward revision of the legal marriageable age limit for boys and girls following legislation in 1978. Field work was conducted in four districts of the state -- Nainital, Dehradun, Agra and Gonda -- from May to October 1979.

Migration affects sex ratio

Trivandrum, (UNI) - The imbalance in sex ratio in Kerala -- there are more women than men -- has become even more pronounced in the 1981 Census than in the earlier ones. One of the reasons for this is that there has been a large-scale migration of unemployed men from the State to foreign countries including those in the Gulf Region, in search of jobs.

Detailed break-up released by the Kerala State Director of Census Operation, M. Vijayanunni Nambiar, shows the imbalance in the sex ratio is most pronounced -- 1,100 females for 1,000 males -- in the areas of Kodungallur, Chavakkad, Talapally and Ottapalam in Trichur district and Chirayinkil in Trivandrum district. From both these areas, there has been large-scale migration in search of jobs, especially to the Gulf countries.

Migration appears to have also contributed, along with the fall in birth rate resulting from the family planning drive, to a reduction in the rate of growth of population in Kerala -- the most thickly populated state in the country -- from 26.92 per cent during 1961-71 to 19 per cent during the last decade. This is the second lowest growth rate in the country after Tamil Nadu's 17.23 per cent.

According to the provisional census figures, Kerala has a population of 25,403,217 comprising 12,487,961 males and 12,915,256 females.

Satyajit Ray and films

Reprinted from Perspective

Continued from last issue

By Joseph Hurley

That the actual singing is done by trained singers, with often very little care wasted on the precision of the dubbing, is taken for granted by the audiences and doesn't seem to disturb anyone very much. It has become something of a custom, however, for the same singer to perform for the same star actor whenever possible (just as in Italy, where dubbing of foreign films was the rule, the same Italian voice was almost always heard speaking the lines coming out of, say, Cary Grant's mouth).

Shashi Kapoor's singing voice, for example, actually belongs to Kishore Kumar, who seems to audiences to possess the sort of voice Kapoor might well have, were he able to sing for himself.

The importance of music in general, and of specific songs, cannot be over stressed in any consideration of Hindi movies. This past season, one of the industry's runaway smash hits was a melodrama called Aurbani (Urdu for "sacrifice"). The film's massive success seems due, perhaps more than anything else, to the song "Aap Kaisa Koi" ("Someone Like You"), sung on the soundtrack, and the inevitable resultant disc, by Nazia Hassan. Hassan herself is a teenaged Muslim girl from Pakistan, now resettled and living in London.

The song became popular wherever there were Indians and the film went on to be the Bombay industry's biggest grosser for a number of years. As for the soundtrack records themselves, the LPs are sometimes so much in demand that they become black market items, commanding a price roughly equivalent to $50 U.S. The Indian middle and upper classes buy soundtrack records with a vengeance, and in rural villages the LP may be communally owned and broadcast over the inevitable public address system.

It is not at all unusual for an Indian actor to be booked for twenty films in advance. A superstar like Shashi Kapoor might be booked for an incredible one hundred future movies.

Shashi Kapoor, at the height of his popularity, perhaps a decade ago, made a bid for international stardom by appearing opposite Hayley Mills in a British film, **A Matter of Innocence**, shot on location in Singapore. Mills at that moment was attempting the difficult transition from child star to teen-aged actress, a passage she never really successfully negotiated.

Had the film been more than trifling, and had Kapoor been a touch luckier, he might be a world-class star today instead of an enormously wealthy but slightly over-the-hill Hindi heart-throb.

It was the handsome, affable Kapoor who very innocently encapsulated the Hindi-language movie industry a few years ago when he told an interviewer: "I play the father of an illegitimate child who becomes critically ill. The mother doesn't realize the boy is hers. And the doctor who operates on the kid is the lover of his mother, my old girlfriend. It's complicated. There's music, too."

At the time Kapoor was interviewed, he was making two movies at the same time, at studios literally across the street from one another, racing back and forth between sound stages - and characterizations - to meet the demands of his work day.

The Hindi cinema customarily operates on the basis of a three-shift day, with a star reporting to work at 5:00 a.m. and carrying on until well after midnight. Though he or she may not be required on every set every day, a character actor might end up working in as many as 20 different movies at the same time, since the Bombay industry grinds out well over 400 features every year.

That the system is not conducive to work of an exceedingly high quality is an understatement not entirely lost on some of the industry's stalwarts. One of the salient factors contributing to the excellent reputation of Dilip Kumar, perhaps the best of Bombay's older male stars, is, his selectivity. Never one to sign on for more than one film at a time, the discerning Kumar is about to appear in **Shakti** ("Strength"), cannily cast opposite one of the country's trendiest young stars, Amitabh Bachchan. It was an irony of fate that placed Kumar, so beloved in Bombay that he is presently serving in the honorary position of sheriff of the city - at the heart of an industry not noted for cinematic excellence so much as craftily giving the masses what they want. Had he been born in Calcutta, he might well be one of Satyajit Ray's actors, a career which would on the face of things seem better suited to Kumar's artistic temperament.

Ray has, where Indian films are concerned, so thoroughly dominated Western thinking on the level of film festivals and international awards that even educated moviegoers who should know better are under the impression that he is his country's only director.

He is, however, until evidence to the contrary comes along, India's best and most personal filmmaker - and has been for over two decades. If he had made no films after "The Apu Trilogy," he would still be an immortal. Ray is very much a creature of the art cinema, and like the Swedish giant, Ingmar Bergman, whose career parallels Ray's in some ways, he is more highly respected outside his native country's borders than within them, and for similar reasons.

Both Ray and Bergman have been richly productive, and both have had trouble with their governments. The films of both men have frequently been damned as being too serious and insufficiently entertaining.

Certainly Ray is in no way interested in providing the mindless escape which is the specialty of the Bombay industry. In 1945, Ray was working in the Calcutta offices of J. Keynor, a British-owned advertising agency. A commercial artist and illustrator, Ray was asked to do a series of drawings for a new, abridged edition of a popular novel, **Pather Panchali**, written by a Bengali schoolmaster, Bibhuti Bannerjee.

Ray was struck by the idea of making a film of Bannerjee's book, which told the story of a village boy, Apu, and his progress to the city of Benares and to maturity. The idea lingered with him until sometime in 1952, when he began production of this labor of love. **Pather Panchali**, part one of the trilogy, occupied him until 1955.

The second part of "The Apu Trilogy" entitled **Aparajito** ("The Unvanquished") appeared in 1956. In 1959, Ray completed part three, **Apur Sansar** ("The World of Apu").

Immediately before Apur Sansar came out, Ray made **Jalsaghar** ("The Music Room"), from a novel by Tarashankar Banerjee; immediately afterward, he went to work on **Devi** ("The Goddess"). With the release of **Devi** in 1960, Ray's position in world cinema was permanently established. Both **Devi** and "The Music Room" focus on the zamindar (from the Persian word for landholder), a class artificially created by the British as a way of simplifying the collection of taxes. Neither was conspicuously successful with Western audiences, causing a certain speculation that Westerners were interested in Indian poverty, but not in the country's wealthy classes.

In truth, the raw, sustained power of "The Apu Trilogy" overcame any barriers that might otherwise have blocked Western reception of the three rather simply made, somewhat protracted, studies of a Bengali family.

The single film that well may throw the clearest light onto Satyajit Ray's life with respect to the way it has shaped his career is **Teen Kanya** ("Three Daughters"). It is an omnibus film made up of three adaptations of stories by Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941). India's greatest 20th century writer, and close friend of the Ray family, Tagore exerted a towering influence on the artist who would eventually become his country's finest film director.

Calcutta has often been called "the brain of India," in recognition of its flourishing intellectual community; in their day, Tagore and Satyajit Ray's paternal grandfather, Upendrakishore, were active participants. Upendrakishore Ray had early on become Calcutta's leading printer, a reputation earned through his having invented machines to improve the reproduction of paintings and drawings for use in the production of books. He himself wrote a series of children's books, at least one of which, **Sekaler Katha**, a tale of animal life in prehistoric times, is still read by Bengali children.

The grandfather created a children's magazine, **Sandesh** ("Sweetmeat"), which Ray's father, Sukumar, eventually edited and which Satyajit Ray still somehow finds time to edit today. It was this tradition of ongoing creativity that not only linked the Nobel Prize-winning Tagore to the Ray family, but that instilled in the young director a desire to recreate examples of his literary idol's work on film.

"Three Daughters," among the most successful of Ray's movies, is the film the West knows as "Two Daughters." One of the stories, **Monihara** ("The Lost Jewels"), had to be cut for reasons of length. Ray, however, appeared no more disturbed by the length of movies produced by his country than he was aware of Western objections to three-hour films.

The film as we know it is composed of "The Postmaster," a brief story about a lonely civil servant assigned to a remote community and the orphaned servant girl who becomes his student; and **Samapti** ("The Conclusion"), the tale of an insecure youth, Amulya, who refuses to marry the bride selected for him, and chooses instead Mrinmoyee, the village tomboy, a wild-spirited creature manifestly unready for marriage.

Ray's films first began appearing at the New York Film Festival in 1964, with **Mahanagar** ("The Great City"). There followed **Charulata** in 1965 and **Aranyer Din Ratri** ("Days and Nights In The Forest") in 1970. The year 1972 brought **Pratidwandi** ("The Adversary"), and 1973 **Ashani Sanket** ("Distant Thunder"). Ray's most recent Film Festival entry has been 1976's **Jan Aranya** ("The Middleman"). No other director, not even the redoubtable Francois Truffaut, has come through as often with films of such high quality.

Sadly, Ray remains a Festival favorite, seldom given regular commercial runs.

The most recent Ray film to open in a New York theater was **Shatranj Ke Khilari** ("The Chess Players") which appeared without much fanfare in mid-May of 1978. A spectacularly beautiful color film, it tells the story of two friends who continually play chess, ignoring the changing world around them. This was Ray's first and only film to date shot in the Hindi language. Set in 1856 in the gorgeous city of Lucknow, the capital of the northern state of Oudh, "The Chess Players" also represents the first time Ray has employed a major non-Indian actor, the English star Richard Attenborough. Attenborough plays General Outram, the British resident, representative of the British East India Company, as it tries to buy up the Indian states. Oudh was historically among the last holdouts against the encroachments of the English.

"The Chess Players" is among the most glorious color films in the world, yet it remains too little known in the West. A similar fate has befallen others among Ray's best films, including "Days and Nights In The Forest," "The Adversary," and even "Distant Thunder." Since 1976, there has been no film by Satyajit Ray in the New York Film Festival, though the 1980 series, the 18th, featured a work by another Bengali director Mrinal Sen, entitled **Ekdin Pratidin** ("One Day Like Another").

As serious in its intentions as any Ray film, Sen's work tells the story of the effect upon a lower middle-class Calcutta family of the temporary disappearance of the breadwinning daughter. Received coolly by the New York critics, **Ekdin Pratidin** later appeared in the 24th London Film Festival under the bizarrely altered title, "And Quiet Rolls The Dawn."

Further along the London schedule was a Ray film, **Hirok Rajar Deshe** ("The Kingdom of Diamonds"), one of his children's films, made this year as a sequel to **Goopi Gyne Bagha Byne** ("The Adventure of Goopi and Bagha") shot in 1968-69. continued....

Concern over US move

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao told Parliament that he had "personally conveyed the U.S. Government India's grave concern at their reported moves to further militarise the Gulf Region and to induct large quantities of arms into Pakistan".

Mr. Rao said "such supplies usually resulted in setbacks to the progress of normalisation within the Indian subcontinent".

India had also made it known to Pakistan that "we are not insensitive to their security concerns and have also assured them that India poses no threat whatsoever to them", Mr. Rao said.

Mr. Rao said India had welcomed Pakistan's assurance that it intended to move forward within the framework of the Simla Agreement for resolving differences between the two countries. The Government itself "remains committed to this ... and every effort should be made to intensify our dialogue with Pakistan with a view to exploring all possible avenues of preventing our region from becoming a theatre of conflict."

FILMS

GEHRAYEE

Direction, editing and story idea by Arunavikas
Produced by N B Kamat

Arunavikas is a unique husband-wife team of filmmakers. Their first feature film, over two years ago, was a bold venture - a murder-cum-love story with many bedroom scenes, some candid, some pretentious.

Gehrayee their second venture, may or may not be inspired by The Exorcist but it is about a supernatural subject-a girl possessed by an evil spirit out to take revenge for the injustice done to it by the girl's father. Into it is woven a clash between two sets of values - traditional and modern or the superstitious and the scientific. In the category of horror films it is the spookiest Hindi film one has seen during the last few years, including films made by Ramsay Brothers who specialize in horror flicks. Besides flinging frights at the unwary audience, it is a serious document on ghosts and possessed people who behave irrationally under the influence of super-natural powers and sometimes speak of things truthful but unheard of. Without saying so much in words, the film does comment and opine that there is such a thing as supernatural which works on the minds and bodies of people. What is the cure? Weird rituals or psychotherapy?

Gehrayee examines in depth these issues and many other connected points, both from conservative and modern viewpoints. The story is plausible and the screenplay engaging. One feels one is living through actual happenings, as the characters are life-like and situations probable. Technically, the film is not as good as The Exorcist (technique of special effects in India is not so developed as in the USA or UK) but it is the work of people who know their subject.

Casting of **Gehrayee** is perfect. Dr. Shrecram Lagoo, the head of the family, has no belief in supernaturalism, he is all for the modern methods of treating a mentally sick person - his young school-going daughter. In contrast is Anant Nag, his educated son, who cannot tolerate his possessed sister's suffering and goes all out for the conservative treatment, mantrik puja. Indrani Mukherjee is the mother, who is as traditional as most Indian mothers are. She expresses her inner turmoil at the suffering of her daughter more through her expressions than through words. Reeta Bhaduri is the farmer's wife through whom the 'spirit' of the dead man is called and talked to. In the finale she is the embodiment of anger and desperation as she is expected to when her husband's spirit has to talk through her. Amrish Puri is the mantrik whose visage and body and stentorian voice exactly fit a mantrik who finds his puja

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N B Kamat, the producer, revels in taking up daring subjects and this one is no less, as the film has no commercial **masala** in it. Frames, with spotlighting corresponding the subject, are a delight and the credit for it goes to Barun Mukherjee, the photographer. Haafiz has written the dialogues with a sure grasp of the subject.

Lastly, the directorial team of Arunavikas: they do things with vehemence. One scene would confirm this - the possessed girl is sitting in the nude, at the dead of night, and the **mantrik** is performing **puja** and chanting **shlokas** to please the goddess. It is done with taste and dignity.

NAKHUDA

Directed by Dilip Naik
Produced by Yash Chopra

While he himself makes big-budget, multi-starrers, Yash Chopra gives chance to his assistants to make low-budget, small cast movies. **Nakhuda** (literally meaning a boatman but metaphorically a godfather, protector, guide) is a small budget film but much more purposive than meaningless multi-starrers.

A noble-spirited hotel-owner whose son lives an evil life showers his affection on another young man whom he helps establish himself in life. But when the young man gets married to a girl from a rich family, the conflict of divided affection takes root. To prevent that the hotel-owner decides to suffer rather than let his own creation come to grief. Later he kills his own son to save the other.

Kulbhushan Kharbanda's god-fearing Muslim hotel-owner is the soul of **Nakhuda**. Kulbhushan, the evil man of **Shaan**, establishes himself as a character artist in the film. His humility and piety, his noble-heartedness, and rigid code of ethics are the chief traits of his character. Raj Kiran, the young man in need of patronage, is tolerable. Swaroop Sampat, the new heroine, has a pleasant face but neither the figure nor the voice to impress. Madan Puri and MacMohan have sympathetic characters. Bharat Kapoor plays the bad son revelling in thuggery, skullduggery, drinking and debauchery. Voluptuous Asha Sachdev does a sensual **mujra**.

It is a good beginning for Dilip Naik who handles the cast with confidence and is able to get the best out of Kulbhushan Kharbanda who has a lot of promise. Khayyam's music is not outstanding. Mushtaq Jalili, who has a knack of writing off-beat stories, has rehashed an old film.

BARSAAT KI EK RATT

Produced and Directed by Shakti Samanta

Since he hit the screen, with a bang, as an angry young man in **Zanjeer**, a couple of years ago, Amitabh Bachchan has risen to the top playing similar roles film after film. And Amjad Khan, except for a few exceptional roles, is mostly cast as the arch villain getting it from the hero in the finale. Utpal Dutt excels as a character artist as also a villain. Shakti Samant mostly casts Utpal Dutt as a villain, and in **Barsaat Ki Ek Raat** he is a villain with a mind, a wheeler-dealer father of Amjad Khan. Abhi Bhattacharya is a character artist par excellence, and in the film he is cast as an upright civil servant. Raakhee is his blind daughter always tending to the needs of her father, and who takes fancy to Amitabh Bachchan's police officer during their first meeting. The sultry siren Prema Narayan is a favourite with Shakti Samanta, who gives her a major side role in which she takes care to shine.

Once one has known the major characters in a film, the plot revelation becomes redundant, especially when everyone is playing his or her set screen image. The setting in **Barsaat Ki Ek Raat** is the beautiful tea gardens of Darjeeling where a police officer comes to put a halt to smuggling across the border and apprehend the anti-social elements - Amjad Khan, Utpal Dutt, and their cronies.

An out and out entertainment, the film glorifies the duty-conscious policemen, with no pretensions to any message. Aloke Das Gupta's photography is the best as far as technical values. The police officer has a certain humorous side to his character, but mostly in the first half. Violence is there for the sake of violence, and if the "hero" comes out unscathed after settling score with more than half a dozen enemies, it is in the "tradition" of the commercial Hindi cinema.

RAJA HARISHCHANDRRA

Produced and Directed by Ashis Kumar

In the wake of the phenomenal success of **Jai Santoshi Maa**, a couple of years ago, over a score of mythologicals were launched. After two or three films were completed hurriedly and released and found to fall flat, the rest were abandoned. Ashis Kumar, the male lead of **Jai Santoshi Maa**, named his film production concern Santoshi Mata Pictures and continued making mythologicals.

Raja Harishchandrra (yes, it is spelled with double 'r', as a concession to superstition and unknown forces) is technically far better, in colour, and true to the religious spirit. Asis Kumar himself plays the Raja who is put to test by an angry Vishwamitra to gauge the former's belief in truth and honesty. Neera is his wife Taramati who suffers for her devotion to her husband. Abhi Bhattacharya plays the angry god, Vishwamitra. Mahipal is Narad Muni, the talecarrying angelic messenger who has the habit of interfering in every God's deeds and misdeeds. Mahipal imitates the make-up and style of Jeevan, the famous Hindi screen's Narad. Bela Bose is the vamp who ill-treats Taramati. Lalita Pawar has a somewhat sympathetic role, that of the mother of the cremation ground owner, **Dom**. Meena T, the most beautiful girl in the film, is the odd-looking **Dom's** wife.

From the first Indian feature film, **Raja Harishchandra**, produced and directed by Dadasaheb Phalke, the father of the Indian cinema, to Ashis Kumar's **Raja Harishchandrra**, there have been not a few versions of the suffering, truthful king of Ayodhya, his wife and their son. The ordeals and the travails the trio undergo have moved generations of traditional, religious-minded people. This new version, in colour and on a somewhat larger scale is not going to be a less moving tear-jerker. Pandit R Priyadarshi, the famous well-versed writer in Hindu mythology, has written it, and appropriate songs have been worded by Satish Tiwari and Ravindra Jain the latter also composes its music. Special effects are by Dahya Bhai and camerawork by R Billimoria, both well-known in their respective fields.

DARSHAK in Democratic World

Film division's record

New Delhi, (UNI) - There has been a "noticeable increase" in the production of feature films "for adults only" in India in 1980.

Of the 742 Indian feature films certified last year 168 granted "A" certificates, according to the annual report of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for 1980-81.

In 1976, of a total of 507 films certified only 27 (5.3 per cent) were given "A" certificates.

More than 85 per cent of feature films made in India in 1980 were in colour, in sharp contrast to 39 per cent seven years ago.

According to the annual report, the Board of Film Censors issued certificates to 742 Indian feature films for public exhibition in 1980. Of these 635 films were in colour and the rest in black and white. In 1973, out of a total of 447 feature films, only 175 films were in colour.

The report says 5,141 films were examined by the Board in 1980. Of these, 1,952 were granted "U" certificate.

The Films Division produced 52 documentary films, 39 national newsreels, 37 regional newsreels, one special newsreel and four news magazines in colour during the period April-December 1980.

Six Films Division documentaries won awards at the International film festivals abroad. These included "Conquest of Kanchenjunga" (Saint Vincent, Rome), "An Encounter with Faces" (Milan, Italy), "They call me Chamar" (Nyon, Switzerland), "Mariculture" (Cartagena, Spain), "Precious Water" (Chicago, USA), and "Life Regained" (New York, USA).

The directorate of films festivals sponsored participation in 19 festivals during 1980.

The film "Neem Annapurna" (Bengali) of Buddhadeb Das Gupta won a special jury award at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival and a special award at the Locarno Film Festival.

At the Jakarta Film Festival, three Indian entries, Basu Bhattacharya's "Grihapravesh" (Hindi), K.R. Mohan's "Aswathama" (Malayalam) and Girish Karanvalli's "Akramana" (Kannada) won the Festival's "Mitra" awards. Satyajit Ray's "Joi Baba Pelunath" (Bengali) fetched a special award at the Cyprus Film Festival.

A retrospective of Mrinal Sen's films, 19 of them was organised at the London Film Festival.

Tea sales to be promoted

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Tea Trading Corporation of India, a public sector undertaking, has decided to enter into collaboration with overseas companies for marketing and packaging Indian tea in select countries to save high freight costs.

The corporation has reached an arrangement with a major handling and warehousing agent in Rotterdam to store tea in that country. This will enable the Corporation to take advantage of spot demands in entire Europe, including the United Kingdom, and offer tea to the importer at his doorstep without any delay.

The Corporation has also entered into production and marketing arrangements with a well-known food processing and distributing organisation in Singapore. This will allow the Corporation to use its infrastructure and sales strength for the effective promotion of packaged Indian tea in South-East Asia and the entire Pacific Region.

INDIAN WORKERS IN WEST ASIA

New Delhi, (UNI) - An estimated 599,500 Indians are working in the major countries of West Asia, the Minister of External Affairs, P.V. Narasimha Rao, informed Parliament recently.

Ukranians and Indo-Canadians

Building of bridges

By Dr. Gurbachan S. Paul

(continued

The East Indian community in Canada is still relatively new, however, they seem to have come over the initial cultural shock and are beginning to realise that their earlier dream about returning to India was just a dream.

Just as the B & B Commission and later the establishment of the Multicultural Directorate become a focal point for many Ukranian-Canadian leaders across Canada, the Green Paper on Immigration helped in the formulation of regional and national organizations of East Indians. It is perhaps true that they are relativley new at the organizational game, nevertheless, they must be credited for being able to create some institutional structures in recent years. This includes the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India.

Despite the above mentioned successes one demographic difference that is quite consequential is the fact that whereas a very large number of Ukranians are Canadian born, the majority of Indo Canadians are "foreign" born. As a result they are still not perceived as part and parcel of this land. It often surprises the native-born white Canadian when they see East Indians articulate the socio-cultural needs of Canadians. The Canadians, including the Ukranian-Canadians, often forget that a relatively large number of Indo-Canadians are highly educated, and educated in the modern international system of education. This type of education helps them move from one culture to another without much dislocation and need for substantial cultural retraining. In fact this actually gives them an advantage over some native-born Canadians who have a more narrow uni-cultural experience. However, despite his international education, ability to articulate, and, in some cases, well paid jobs, the East Indian continues to be perceived as an intruder.

Whether he is buying a house, a car, attending public meetings, running a small (or big) business, he never feels a sense of belonging. "Never" is a strong word, but I use it deliberately. I am in a better position to say this because I am one of those few East Indians who is relatively more involved on the provincial and national scene. Every few weeks I find myself sitting around the table with my colleagues from the Multicultural Council, colleagues from various ethnic groups, making major policy recommendations for the Minister's consideration. On the face of it I seem to be deeply involved, heavily committed. But when the moment comes for self searching which is the moment of truth, I see the ugly conglomeration of news headlines "Racism in the job Market - Naturally", "Ku Klux Strikes Again; Red Deer Home Target", "West-Fed Meeting Marked by Racial Slurs" The furor over W5 rendering of "Foreign Students in Canada" made trauma of being visibly "different" (no matter whether one is a naturalized Canadian Citizen, first or second generation) only too obvious.

There is no doubt that the Ukranian-Canadian community received (and continue to receive) its share of discrimination from the larger society. However, the nature of discrimination which the Ukranian community had to face can be sociologically defined as a "process of ethno-centrism". In this process the community in power considers its own culture superior relative to another culture or cultures. This attitude is engrained so as to establish a superior-subservient relationship. It enables the group in power to maintain its superior position in the society. However, there are some minor loopholes in ethno-centric institutional structures. It, sometimes, allows some individuals who are willing to change their names, religion, language and other cultural attributes, to enter the power structure. The danger here lies in the fact this tokenism is mistaken for egalitarianism. It should be emphasized here that shedding one's own cultural garb for a new one does not necessarily make a person acceptable in the power structure and quite frequently makes a person rootless.

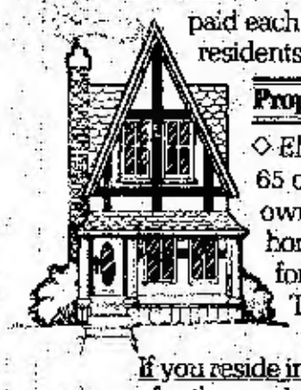
If ethno-centrism leaves certain loopholes racism allows for no such gratification. Your experience in this regard teaches us an important lesson. Your cultural ambivalence almost robbed you of your cultural identity. In the process of learning to become part of the Canadian Society, you made a very deliberate attempt to forget your roots. The average ukranian tried to acquire the attitudes of the larger white society which was not only racially biased but culturally ethno-centric. It was openly hostile to your culture. To overcome the barriers created by this open discrimination you changed your names, forgot your language, cloaked your customs. You became victims of the malaise of newcomers who are often made to believe that in some way they are really inferior and, therefore, deserving of the attitude they received from the larger white society.

To be continued next issue

Address to the Edmonton Ukrainian & Professional Club

Ontario's Tax Grants for Senior Citizens. 1981 installments have been mailed.

Last year Ontario replaced its system of tax credits for seniors with a new program of Property and Sales Tax Grants. The Property Tax Grant of up to $500 is provided in two installments annually. The Sales Tax Grant is an automatic $50 paid each year to Ontario residents 65 and over.



Property Tax Grants

◇ *Eligibility.* If you're 65 or over and own or rent your home you're eligible for the Property Tax Grant of up to $500.

If you reside in a nursing home, a home for the aged or similar institution, you're not eligible for the Property Tax Grant unless you pay for the full cost of your care and the institution pays municipal and school taxes.

◇ *No Application Needed.* If you qualified for the Property Tax Grant last year you'll automatically receive the April installment. This cheque, to a maximum of $250 will be half of last year's Grant. Your installment cheque was mailed April 6th. This is intended to assist you in paying your property tax or rent for the first part of 1981. In the fall you'll automatically receive an application for the balance of your Grant.

◇ *If you turned 65 after December 31, 1980* (and therefore did not qualify for a Grant last year) you won't receive the April installment. However in the fall you'll receive an application for the entire 1981 Grant.

Sales Tax Grants

An annual $50 Grant is paid automatically to every senior citizen. You will receive your 1981 Sales Tax Grant this fall.

Special Note

If you do not receive the federal Old Age Security Pension and you're 65 or over, please contact our Information Centre toll-free for details on how to receive your Grants.

◇ In Metro Toronto, dial 965-8470.

◇ In Area Code 807, ask the Operator for Zenith 8-2000.

◇ In all other areas, dial 1-800-268-7121.

Ministry of Revenue

Ontario

Teacher receiv

Mathew Cyriac of Montreal won an award from the Hilroy Foundation for his project on "The Hatching of Chicken Eggs in the Classroom". With the award, Mr. Cyriac was presented with a cheque for $1500 by Denis Ratcheff, the President of the Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers.

As a Biology teacher at the Bishop Whelan High School in suburban Montreal for the last eleven years, Mr. Cyriac charted the development of the chick embryo and incorporated the project in his teaching program.

Carnatic m

By George W. Lyon

Calgary's Raga Mala Music Society gave its first concert of the year, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C.S. Balasubramanian, on March 7. The program was one of Carnatic music, featuring Mrs. Kamala Kumar, vocalist, and Dr. C.G. Balachandran, mridangam. As Dr. D. Venkatesan pointed out, during his eloquent vote of thanks at the conclusion of the concert, although Calgary's population of classical music devotees has always supported both Hindustani and Carnatic music, we have not before had first rate Carnatic artists residing here, to keep the tradition alive in this region. Kumar and Balachandran fill the need admirably.

Who'd have ever expected that Cowtown would be blessed by such a dignified, sensitive singer? The fact that Kumar actually resides in nearby Carstairs is irrelevant; as Venkatesan pointed out, we hereby annex Carstairs to Calgary!

She has a sharp, full but piercing voice, that is as effective at a whisper as at full volume. In fact, she said a bout with the flu had made her voice weaker than she would have liked; hard to believe that.

Close Notes:

Though she can draw out a fine long note, like a spinner pulling a lovely thread from a jumble of fibre, to snip it off with a pleasant bend, I was most struck by her incredible rhythmic capability, the fast, close notes she sang in the style which I've read the British used to disparage as "gargling," probably because they didn't know how to do it.

Teacher receives award

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As a Biology teacher at the Bishop Whelan High School in suburban Montreal for the last eleven years, Mr. Cyriac charted the development of the chick embryo and incorporated the project in his teaching program.

Not only did this provide an exciting experience to his city-bred science students, but also motivated his other students in the area of Remedial Mathematics and Special Education.

The citation says that the award has been made "in recognition of the initiative and professional enterprise displayed in the development and successful application of an important educational innovation."

Before coming to Canada in 1970, Mr. Cyriac has taught in Nairobi, Kenya, and also in Ghana, West Africa.

PEALI inaugurated

Peali - Presentation, Entertainment, Arts and Literature of India celebrated NATARAJA DAY on March 14, at Fellowship Hall, Valois United Church, Pointe Claire. About 250 people graced the Cultural Show of Classical Dances of India, Yoga and Postures and Music.

Mrs. Sarasi Raj, Project Director welcomed the audience. In her inaugural talk Mrs. Raj stressed the importance of Multiculturalism in the pluralistic society of Canada. The Team Song, particularly chosen for the occasion was sung by the members of PEALI.

The students of PEALI trained by Sarasi Raj and Kalpalatha Filteau started the evening with their Dance. Within a short period of training, they were able to exhibit their talents fully well with their eye-catching costumes made by their mothers with the locally available materials. It was followed by Ram Ramanan's excellent Bharathanatyam.

Hata Yoga by Swami Ragavananda and Party of Sivananda Vedanta Yoga Centre of Montreal added charm and dignity to the evening. Songs on NATARAJA were rendered by Sarasi Raj. She was accompanied on Tablas (Indian Drums) by Ramprasad Ramdass, on Veena by Mrs. Ramanan and on Tampura by Mrs. Filteau.

Master of Ceremony Jayanthi Ramanan conducted the evening very creditably. Rev. Yoshioka spoke a few words and congratulated the organization for its excellent programme. The evening was concluded with a tasty Indian Cuisine prepared by the members of PEALI.

Durable, but useless

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian government has given notice of termination of services to a public relations consultant it appointed in Washington over 15 years ago on a yearly salary of $70,000.

The notice was served following a review of the consultant's performance and in the light of experience gained by Indian embassy personnel in public relations, Parliament was told.

The estimates committee of the Lok Sabha had raised the matter in March 1979, stating that it was "unable to appreciate the need for engaging a private consultant in the US."

The committee, in its report presented to the House, took note of the serving of the notice and voiced the hope that the external affairs ministry would now handle public relations work in the US and elsewhere competently through their own officers.

This is not the first time the government has served notice on the consultant, engaged in 1964-65 to "promote public relations and create a climate for cooperation with an interest in India".

Two years ago, the committee was informed of the consultant having been served notice, which was, however, subsequently withdrawn because of "certain subsequent developments."

The committee had desired that the entire matter about the need to appoint the consultant, his continuance for 13 years and the earlier instance of service of termination notice and its withdrawal be examined by an independent authority outside the ministry.

Simla pact

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Simla Agreement has provided a reliable and adequate framework for further development of good neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan, Pakistan's ambassador in India Abdul Sattar said recently.

Mr. Sattar was the first Pakistani envoy to have addressed the Indian people through All India Radio and Delhi Doordarshan (television) since resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Carnatic music in Calgary

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Of course, technical capability is worthless, except in the service of emotion and artistic expression. And I'm pleased to add that Mrs. Kumar is nothing, if not an impassioned singer. Though I knew not a word she sang, I felt, nevertheless, that she was communicating to me something of her own emotions, directly, beyond the words.

Much pleasure though she gave to me, and to the others in the audience, no one enjoyed Mrs. Kumar's singing more than Dr. Balachandran, whose galloping mridangam surely spurred her on to her own achievement. Balachandran's rhythmic elaborations on the tals and the songs delighted everyone. He took a long solo in Adi tal at the end of the first set that had every head in the room bobbing to his sinuous, exciting drumming. He was constantly surprising us, that he could be so inventive and free within the stern framework of the tal.

Accompanying Kumar and Balachandran were Rama Balachandran and Sudha Thakkar, tamboura, and Mrs. Iyer, 2nd vocalist. The latter offered a delightful supporting echo, with good strength and volume when emphasis demanded them. She had a brief call and response duet with her teacher near the end of the program, and she showed them that she has a fine, clear voice.

It's often noted that vocal music, and perhaps especially Carnatic vocal music, has a very small following. Perhaps that's a shame, since fine artists like Mrs. Kumar should be heard more widely; but I can't help being a little selfish about it, since, as a member of the audience, it gives me the chance to hear them in an intimate, relaxed setting, without the inevitable distortion of electronics in a large hall.

Instruction:

Before the program commenced, Raga Mala president, Dr. Jagannath, announced that Balachandran and Kumar have agreed to offer instruction in Carnatic music to interested Calgarians. The Society will invest in the instruments necessary to this instruction. Anyone in the Southern Alberta area who would like to study Carnatic music can get in touch with Chini Doraiswamy, Dr. Balachandran or Mrs. Kumar. With able teachers, instruments and an enthusiastic Society, all ready to go, hopefully the public will respond!

Studying earthquake

Roorkee, (UNI) - The Department of Earthquake Engineering of the University of Roorke, India, has done a pioneering feat in fabricating and installing some instruments for the study of earthquake data saving the country over 275,000 dollars in foreign exchange.

These instruments known as Strong Motion Accelerographs and Structural Response Records are the result of continuous research activities over the last 20 years at the Department, the only centre for Earthquake Engineering Education and Research in the country and one of the few in the world.

THULASI BOOKS

SELECTED TITLES

AYURVEDA, THE INDIAN ART & SCIENCE OF MEDICINE by Dr. Chandrasekhar Thakkur. U.S. edn. 204pp. $7.95
A well-known Ayurvedic doctor explains all the basic principles of Ayurveda in a manner which is suitable for anyone seeking basic familiarity with Ayurvedic medicine and the theories which underlie its effective application.

THE GOSPEL OF RAMAKRISHNA by Mahendra Nath Gupta trans. by Swami Nikhilananda. This is the only complete translation of the Gospel available in English and by far the most popular edition. Includes a biography of Ramakrishna with 24 photographs. Large U.S. Hardback edition. 1088pp. $16.50

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Deoband verdict
Sajida Begum bows

Chandigarh, (UNI) - Mrs. Sajida Begum, whose marriage with Haji Anwar Ahmed Khan, was declared illegal by Darul Qaza, Deoband, has accepted the verdict of the religious court "without any reservation".

The controversial marriage of the two former political adversaries -- Mrs. Sajida Begum, a Punjab Congress-I Legislative Assembly member (MLA), and Haji Anwar Ahmed Khan, a former Akali MLA -- was 102 days old on Sunday, March 22.

The marriage, performed in Chandigarh in December last, led to the controversy as Mrs. Sajida Begum was accused of violating the Shariat law by not observing the 100-day "Iddat" (mourning) after her divorce from her first husband.

Mrs. Sajida Begum has been married to the former Nawab of Malerkotla, Iftiqar Ali Khan for about 30 years. However, she was divorced in the wake of a reported dispute over property. The couple had no children. Soon after, Begum Sajida re-married Haji Anwar Khan, who already had a wife and children. Ignoring criticism and controversy, the newly married couple went on a honeymoon to Kashmir and Goa.

The marriage was solemnised at Chandigarh following a reported Fatwa from the Mufti of Malerkotla. Later, the case was re-opened when new evidence about the period of divorce was tendered before the Imam of Dar-ul-Uloom of Deoband.

The court had ordered the couple to live separately.

Begum Sajida had been asked to observe a fresh 'Iddat" for ten days from March 22, the day the court gave the ruling.

"I bow to the decision of the religious court, I am observing 'Iddat" these days", the Begum told a newspaper correspondent.

But the Begum is not going to marry again. "If another Nikah is to be performed, it will be performed only with (Haji Anwar) Ahmed Khan Sahib and none else", she said.

She blamed the Mufti of Malerkotla and a few others for the controversy about her marriage. "The Mufti gave a fatwa on the basis of which we got married here on December 10, 1980. Later, he changed his stand and brought another Fatwa from Deoband which caused a controversy", she said.

Muslims surveyed

New Delhi, (UNI) - Mohammed Yunus Saleem, secretary-general of the newly constituted Islamic Council of India has said that a sub-committee was being appointed to survey the socio-economic condition of Indian Muslims. Another sub-committee would work out a plan to bring out a daily newspaper in English.

Talking to newsmen Mr. Saleem said a memorandum had been submitted to the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, seeking exemption from income-tax for all Muslim religious and charitable organisations on the ground that they did not charge interest.

A resolution adopted by the council decided to establish an Islamic secretariat consisting of a standing committee and a general council of 21 and 51 members respectively. The office bearers are Maulana Syed Abu Hasan Ali Nadvi (chief advisor), Maulana Qari Mohammad Tayyab Qasmi (president), Maulana Sayeed Ahmad Akbarabadi, Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait, MP, Anjum Qader (all vice-presidents). Mr. Mohammad Shafi Qureshi is the secretary of the council. They will constitute the standing committee and the general council in consultation with other prominent Muslim leaders. The Islamic secretariat will convene an all-India meeting before the end of this year to place before it the programme of action of the council.

The council's resolution expressed concern over the "alarming dimensions" that the educational, social and economic backwardness of the Muslims of India had assumed. It also took the view that the cultural identity of Muslims in the country "is facing unprecedented and continuous threats". The object of the council will be to seek an atmosphere of communal harmony, to promote the cause of national integration and to establish rapport between the Muslims and the rest of the Islamic Ummah.

Among those who attended the meeting of prominent Muslims, held on March 22 at the residence of Mr. Saleem, were representatives of the Darululoom, Deoband, All India Muslims Majlis Mushawarat, Jamat Islami Hind, Indian Muslim Union League, All India Shia Conference. The former chairman of the Minority Commission, Mr. (Justice) Ansari, was also present.

Transplant patients suffer

New Delhi, (UNI) - Many kidney transplat patients in India are struggling for jobs. They feel that kidney transplantation has impaired their prospects for employment.

In a chat with newsmen here on March 29, they regretted that the certificates issued by the country's six kidney transplant centres declaring them "normal" did not find favour with the job-giving agencies, including government departments.

The problem was acute for the fresh job-seekers. Many of them face outright rejection for having only one kidney, they lamented.

Fairs succeed

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nearly 190 leading Indian business firms participated in the exhibition organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) at Jeddah in Saudi Arabia from March 24 to April 2, according to Mr. Yunus, Chairman of TFAI.

On display were a wide range of machinery, machine tools, electronic equipment, consumer goods and handicrafts.

Mr. Yunus told newsmen on April 1 that the Governor of Mecca who inaugurated the exhibition showed keen interest in the variety and quality of various types of exhibits on display. He was happy to note that within a few minutes of the opening of the exhibition one of the participants could book an order worth 5,000 dollars.

In Singapore, Mr. Yunus said, India-81, an exclusive exhibition organised by TFAI was a big success and most of the engineering items exhibited were sold out long before the closing day. The exhibition which opened on March 26 will continue till April 26.

Finance centre suggested

Chandigarh, (UNI) - To enable overseas investors to explore opportunities in India, the State Bank of India Chairman, P.C.D. Nambiar has suggested the establishment of an International Finance Centre in the country.

Addressing the 26th Annual General Meeting of Bank shareholders here, Mr. Nambiar said such a centre would also provide Indian borrowers with wider options in raising external financial resources.

Earlier, expressing concern over the weakening of the institutional farm credit structure in India, he said postponment of recovery of dues from farmers or writing off overdues without distinction between wilful default and default on account of genuine difficulties were unfair to borrowers who repaid their loans promptly.

The bank chairman also made an earnest appeal for a review of a recent policy change requiring commercial banks to give up area approach in financing agriculture. Return to scattered lendings would set the clock back by more than a decade, he said.

OCEAN ENERGY HAS HIGH POTENTIAL, SAY INDIAN SCIENTISTS

Madras, (UNI) - Prof. Nurul Hasan, Vice-President of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has pleaded for high priority to be given to tapping the ocean for energy. He was inaugurating an Ocean Engineering Conference organised for the first time in India at the Indian Institute of Technology here.

Missions to be linked by satellite

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Government is planning to link all Indian missions abroad through a satellite communication system to keep them informed of developments inside the country and abroad within the shortest possible time.

Already its missions in North and South America have been linked by a satellite system.

The External Publicity Division made special publicity efforts in 1980-81 to project India's firm commitment to democracy and nonalignment, according to the annual report of the External Affairs Ministry.

The report says the division gave a correct interpretation and projection of the developments in Indo-China, Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq war, the arms build-up and the increasing super power rivalry and the reversal of the process of detente.

The division made special efforts to assist all Indian missions abroad in interpreting India's foreign policy.

Trial in peoples' court

Kozhikode (Kerala), (UNI) - Forty-three persons were arrested and several persons injured as police cane-charged a large crowd which gathered in front of the medical college at Chevayoor, near here, to witness an Associate Professor's "trial" by a "peoples' court", organised by the "Janakeeya Samskara Vedi", allegedly a Naxalite organisation.

Nine policemen, including one assistant subinspector, who were injured in stone-throwing, were admitted to the beach Hospital. Three policemen were treated as out-patients.

Four Janakeeya Samskara Vedi workers, who suffered injuries in the cane-charge were also admitted to the hospital, police said.

Meanwhile, all doctors, house-surgeons and students of the medical college abstained from the college protesting against the "inhuman behaviour towards Dr K.M. George, the Associate Professor, allegedly by the Janakeeya Samskara Vedi workers.

Work in all the departments, except the casualty wing of the college, came to a standstill.

The trouble erupted when about 25 "Janakeeya Samskara Vedi" workers cordoned Dr George, as he alighted from his car at the college hospital. Two of them reportedly held Dr. George's hands and put round his neck a placard, which read, "I am a corrupt chief". Dr. George was then paraded from the campus to the main road, where he was made to apologise to the people for "his corrupt practices" after the "trial" in the "peoples' court."

Increased illegal immigration

New Delhi, (UNI) - Even as the student leaders of the North-eastern Indian State of Assam are agitating for the deportation of "foreigners" from the State, the Government of West Bengal (also bordering Bangladesh), is worried over the phenomenal increase in the number of Bangladesh nationals overstaying in the State during the last decade.

It is estimated that over 200,000 out of the total 1.2 million Bangladesh nationals who visited West Bengal between 1972 and 1980 have not returned to their country. Most of them are untraceable.

According to police estimates, 50 per cent of the Muslims in the influx are Bengalis who have relatives and friends in West Bengal.

The police say that since the State Government has no tag on their movements, their whereabouts remain unknown. Earlier, when a foreign national from the erstwhile East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) visited West Bengal, he had to report to the nearest police post within 48 hours of his arrival. He also had to register himself with the Foreigners' Registration Office. But this practice has been discontinued for the Bangladesh nationals who have valid travel documents for a stay of up to 180 days.

New terminal for Madras airport

Madras, (UNI) - Madras airport, the hub of domestic air traffic in south India, will have a new domestic passenger terminal complex in about four years.

The Indian Government has approved this project at an estimated cost of 12.55 million dollars. Madras will be the first of the four international airports in the country to have domestic passenger terminal complex, according to S. Ramanathan, Chairman, International Airport Authority of India (IAAI).

The new project will consist of new domestic terminal, aircraft parking bays, taxi links, approach roads, car parks and ancillary facilities. The terminal will have a capacity to handle 1.2 million passengers annually and in the peak hours it will be able to handle 1,200 arriving and departing passengers.

KITCHEN

By Pranati SenGu

For the past few years, there health foods and vegetarian co what is known as the vegetaria the flavor and taste of the fre spices? That simple art o spreading through North Ame

Many of the recipes found in borrowed from Indian Cuisin lentils or beans as a ma Nutritionally, a balanced vege the protein that is needed to this interest has brought a ye with pure and natural ingredie

Scarcely a decade ago, nutrit handful of health nuts to listen

These days, health food st dandelions on the spring law food movement is a billion-dol opinion the word "natural" h its limits as some business pe craze. Most of the ingredien expensive but they offer a cho food flair. Browse through a find dozens of ideas. Consid are that call for a pinch of cu curry powder or a tablespoon them. A touch of ethnic sea routine meal. It provides a m it never leaps out at you like freshly chopped coriander le ginger root you can create a recipe. Even if you are not a a look at the vegetarian c dollar-stretching value in th prices.

Indian Enchiladas (vegetaria

Filling:
2 pkg. fresh spinach (10 oz. chopped
2 cups black-eyed beans cook dry beans)
5 tbsp. oil
¼ tsp. cumin seeds
1 tbsp. curry powder
¼ to ½ tsp. chili powder
2 tsp. finely chopped fresh
1¼ tsp. salt
½ tsp. sugar
1 cup thick plain yogurt

Tomato Sauce:
2 cans (14 oz. each) tomato
2 tbsp. oil and 2 tbsp. finel
1½ tsp. cumin powder, ½
2 to 4 green chili, chopped
Other ingredients:
4 oz. shredded mozzarella
12 to 14 chapaties (see Ma

Pat dry spinach in towel Chop finely. Fry in a large f the spinach at a time, over time. The spinach should n been cooked. Remove and second batch with another the spinach is cooked, put add curry powder, salt, su ginger root. Mix well over minutes. In another pan, h add cumin seeds. Then f stirring until they are nice mixture. Cool.

To prepare Sauce: Heat o Fry chopped onion until so powder and fry just seco coriander leaves and green for 12 minutes.

To prepare Enchiladas: sauce to moisten, then fill a little cheese on top and and roll the chapati like a cup tomato sauce on the b glass pan and as each ench the baking pan over toma are in the pan, cover them and sprinkle the rest of preheated 350F oven fo cheese is bubbly and the soon. You are sure to enj

Gujarati lan program

Gujarati language school i organizing its annual prog ramme of entertainment o Saturday, May 9, 1981 a J.S. Woodsworth School 159 Chesterton Drive, 4

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

For the past few years, there has been a certain cry for health foods and vegetarian cooking. India is the land of what is known as the vegetarian world. Who can forget the flavor and taste of the fresh vegetables, herbs and spices? That simple art of vegetarian cookery is spreading through North America.

Many of the recipes found in vegetarian cookbooks are borrowed from Indian Cuisine which rely heavily on lentils or beans as a main source of protein. Nutritionally, a balanced vegetarian diet can supply all the protein that is needed to maintain good health. All this interest has brought a yearn for the meatless meal with pure and natural ingredients.

Scarcely a decade ago, nutritionists could gather only a handful of health nuts to listen to their nutritional gospel.

These days, health food stores are popping up like dandelions on the spring lawn. Ironically, the natural food movement is a billion-dollar-a-year business. In my opinion the word "natural" has been stretched beyond its limits as some business people try to cash in on the craze. Most of the ingredients in these stores are very expensive but they offer a choice of eating and a certain food flair. Browse through a health food store and you'll find dozens of ideas. Consider how many recipes there are that call for a pinch of cumin seeds or a spoonful of curry powder or a tablespoon of chopped ginger root in them. A touch of ethnic seasoning can spice up a dull routine meal. It provides a mild zing, a zip and zest, but it never leaps out at you like Tabasco or garlic. By using freshly chopped coriander leaves, green chili and raw ginger root you can create a superb dish from a simple recipe. Even if you are not a vegetarian it is worth taking a look at the vegetarian cuisine for its variety and dollar-stretching value in these days of soaring meat prices.

Indian Enchiladas [vegetarian]

Filling:
2 pkg. fresh spinach (10 oz. each), washed, drained and chopped
2 cups black-eyed beans cooked and drained (about 1 cup dry beans)
5 tbsp. oil
¼ tsp. cumin seeds
1 tbsp. curry powder
¼ to ½ tsp. chili powder
2 tsp. finely chopped fresh ginger root
1¼ tsp. salt
½ tsp. sugar
1 cup thick plain yogurt

Tomato Sauce:
2 cans (14 oz. each) tomato sauce
2 tbsp. oil and 2 tbsp. finely chopped onion
1½ tsp. cumin powder, ½ cup chopped coriander leaves
2 to 4 green chili, chopped
Other ingredients:
4 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese
12 to 14 chapaties (see March issue)

Pat dry spinach in towel to remove excess moisture. Chop finely. Fry in a large frying pan with 1 tbsp oil, half the spinach at a time, over very high heat, stirring all the time. The spinach should not have any liquid after it has been cooked. Remove and place on a plate and finish the second batch with another tablespoon of oil. When all the spinach is cooked, put it back in the same pan and add curry powder, salt, sugar, chili powder and fresh ginger root. Mix well over medium heat and cook for 2 minutes. In another pan, heat remaining 3 tbsp. oil and add cumin seeds. Then fry drained black eyed beans, stirring until they are nice and crisp. Stir in spinach mixture. Cool.

To prepare Sauce: Heat oil in medium sized saucepan. Fry chopped onion until soft, but not brown. Add cumin powder and fry just seconds, then add tomato sauce, coriander leaves and green chili. Mix well and simmer for 12 minutes.

To prepare Enchilzdas: Dip each chapati in tomato sauce to moisten, then fill with spinach mixture. Sprinkle a little cheese on top and then one tablespoon of yogurt and roll the chapati like a crepe or 'patishapta'. Pour 1 cup tomato sauce on the bottom of a large oblong baking glass pan and as each enchilada is completed, place it in the baking pan over tomato sauce. When all chapaties are in the pan, cover them with remaining tomato sauce and sprinkle the rest of cheese on top. Bake in a preheated 350F oven for about 20 minutes, or until cheese is bubbly and the enchiladas are hot. Try them soon. You are sure to enjoy them.

Gujarati language school program

Gujarati language school is organizing its annual programme of entertainment on Saturday, May 9, 1981 at J.S. Woodsworth School, 159 Chesterton Drive, 4 - 6, p.m. Refreshments will be served. All are cordially invited.

For further information please call J. Bhatt 226.5154.

Glut in opium

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has been the major producer and traditional supplier of opium till recently. But of late some other countries, including Australia, have also started growing poppy for the production of opium and extraction of morphine. As a result, India today is facing a glut of opium stocks that could lead to considerable loss and unemployment among opium growers.

But it is expected that the country would be relieved of the burden through international action aimed at encouraging purchases of narcotics only from India and Turkey. At the United Nations Conference on Narcotics Drugs, recently, a resolution was adopted through India's efforts declaring India and Turkey as traditional suppliers of opium. The resolution urged other producer countries to limit their output to meet their own requirements.

Diesel from Gulf

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Government of India has awarded a tender in favour of some Gulf countries for spot purchases of highspeed diesel (hsd) and kerosene oil.

A global tender was floated by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) on behalf of the union Government to purchase 150,000 tonnes of high speed diesel and 1000,000 tonnes of kerosene oil from the open market.

The last date for the receipt of the tender was closed a couple of days back and yesterday it was decided to import these petroleum products from Singapore and some of the gulf countries. The products would be delivered at the Bombay port.

This is the third time that the Indian government is making spot purchase of hsd and kerosene oil to meet local demands. the total quantity purchased from the open market this year totalled 500,000 tonnes of diesel and just over 150,000 tonnes of kerosene oil.

Ocean Expo in 1982

New Delhi, (UNI) - India is likely to participate in a big way in Oceanexpo 1982 to be held in Bahrain early next year.

The international fair which will attract more than 150 countries to exhibit their technological achievements in the field of deepsea mining, coastal development, shipbuilding and its facilities, maintenance and repairs, offshore exploration and exploitation of ores sands and gravels etc, will be organised by Techno-expo, a French Company, reports Economic Times.

The company holds such international exhibitions from time to time to bring about closer technological cooperation between the developing and the developed countries in various fields. It will be for the first time that India will participate in one such exhibition.

Singapore hangs Indian

Singapore (UNI) - A 30-year-old Indian from Uttar Pradesh who was under death sentence for drug trafficking was hanged at dawn here on March 27.

Azmi Anis Ahmad of Azamgarh, was the first Indian citizen to go to gallows under Singapore's tough anti-drug law which provides mandatory death seotence for trafficking more than 15 grammes of heroin. So far nine persons have been hanged under the law.

Azmi's body was handed over to a Muslim religious body for burial according to his wishes.

Azmi was in custody since his arrest in July 1977 at the check point when he entered Singapore from neighbouring Malaysia. He was found having 3 sealed envelopes in his trouser pocket containing 75 grammes of the drug wrapped in 22 plastic packers. During the trial he pleaded not guilty and claimed that he thought the covers contained native medicines which a stranger he befriended in Kuala Lumpur -- gave him to be delivered to another person in Singapore.

The High Court sentenced him in February 1979 and his appeal and subsequent clemency petitions to the President by the Indian Government and his father were rejected in July last year.

Modern flying equipment

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Civil Aviation has acquired sophisticated equipment worth 6.25 million dollars to ensure safe operations of domestic and international flights.

The major component comprises two Avro HS-748 aircraft for calibration of ground landing and navigational aids installed at airports throughout the country.

Calibration of ground navigation and landing aids is essential for safe air operations. This calibration is being done by the airborne flights equipment to ensure that the ground aids are operating within the prescribed accuracy standards.

The Avro HS-748 aircarft are now being fitted with sophisticated equipment.

Modern jet aircarft mostly fly with the help of vital ground aids such as Very High Frequency Omni Range (VDR), Non-Director Beacon (NDB), Visual Direction Finder (VDF), Distance Measuring Equipment (IME), Instrument Landing System (ILS) and Radars.

The sensitive and navigational and landing aids are required to be calibrated every three to six months for their accuracy, which will be done by the two Avros just acquired by the Indian Civil Aviation.

The new equipment for flight calibration installed on these two Avro aircarft is most sophisticated and advanced in accuracy. It is expected to improve air navigation substantially thereby reducing fuel consumption and the time involved on each flight.

Pollution prevention

New Delhi, (UNI) - Dal Lake, the prime tourist resort attraction in Srinagar, capital of the Northern state of Jammu and Kashmir is not sitting up, according to its Environmental Engineering Chief G.M. Mir.

Refuting reports of pollution, Mr. Mir said there was no basis for the scare, for "Dal Lake is still very safe, and not in an advanced stage of atrophication". However, he cautioned that "if the rate of pollution was not arrested the lake will lose its self-cleansing power".

According to Mr. Mir to secure the lake from pollution the State Government had formulated an ambitious project which involved an estimated expenditure of Rs 170 million in the first phase.

Home libraries promoted

Kottayam, (UNI) - Nearly 3,000 government and quasi-government employees in Kerala State in South India, have built up libraries on their own, taking advantage of an unique home library scheme launched by the pioneering writers' cooperative, the Sahithya Pravarthaka Sahakarana Sangham a month ago.

Sangham President M. Achuthan told newsmen here that books worth 187,500 dollars would be distributed in April under the scheme.

The scheme envisages advancing of books worth 125 dollars and 62.50 dollars each in two categories to government and quasi-government employees. The cost of the books is recovered in easy installments.

It brings high-priced classics within the reach of the book-loving public.

Mr. Achuthan said 80 per cent of the writers in Malayalam (the language spoken in Kerala) were members of the cooperative which now published about 500 books a year.

JOINT INDO-UAE PROJECTS NEGOTIATED

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Gujarat Government and the Gulf countries will together pool an investment of more than 1375 million dollars for setting up various industrial and business ventures, protocols of which have yet to be signed.

Among the tie-ups, the Gujarat Government has negotiated with the MILCO company of Bin Hamooda group of the United Arab Emirates for setting up a joint sector project at the cost of 275 million dollars for the production and export of milk and vegetables from Gujarat to the UAE.

CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Very handsome, Gujarati physician, 32, 5'-9", practising in California wishes to meet beautiful talented woman in her twenties for matrimonial. Returnable photograph and phone number is must. M-1780, The Canadian India Times

******

Brothers well settled, Canadian citizens, invite matrimonial correspondence from immigrant Gujarati [preferably Jain] girl with a good family background for their smart, handsome, brother, 25, now in Bombay. Write to M-1781, The Canadian India Times.

******

Brother from a well educated family invites matrimonial correspondence from Punjabi Brahmin professionals over 30 years old for sisters MSc (Chemistry) and MSc(Botany) BEd. Both currently lecturers in India. Write to M-1782, The Canadian India Times.

******

Wanted An immigrant well-educated girl from Hindu family, preferably Bhargava for a medical doctor, 25, 5'-5", working in India for M.S. Brothers family well-settled in Canada. Write to Dr. Bhargava, Box 932, Wynyard, Saskatchewan, SOA 4TO.

******

Immediate correspondence invited from boys residing in Canada or U.S.A. for well-educated attractive girl, daughter of a well known medical doctor residing in Bihar India. Caste-Kayasthe. Contact (403) 271-5109, Calgary.

******

Professional match in late twenties for pretty, convent-educated girl from good family-presently teaching in Delhi. Contact brother at (416) 495-5481.

******

Suitable match preferably in Canada for a divorced Rajput girl, 25, attractive, homely, M.A. Economics, working in States. Also for her younger brother, 23, graduate, extremely handsome, tall and athletic, working in India. Caste no bar. M-1737, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from a tall, professionally qualified young man for our duaghter, charming, pretty, 5'-3", 22. R.N. working. Well settled Arora family in Toronto. Caste no bar. M-1775, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a Canadian immigrant Jat-Sikh girl, 21 year old, beautiful and good natured. Only Canadian/U.S. citizens or immigrants need apply. 5245 Jeanne-Mance, Montreal, Quebec 514-273-8015.

Correspondence invited from well cultured Gujarati girl from respectable family for our brother, 28, handsome, M.S., currently in Canada. Girl's merits main consideration. Call 521-1051 (Ottawa).

Suitable Punjabi match for beautiful, tall, slim, girl, 21. Graduate from Delhi. Visitor in Canada. Write to her sister, 1735, Millar Street, Ville St. Laurent, Quebec. H4L 3H5. Phone: 514-747-1983 or (703-979-9222) Washington.

******

A well settled doctor wants suitable match for his niece, 24, B.Ed., 5'-3" and very pretty. Presently she is in Montreal for a visit. U.S./Canadian immigrants need apply. Boy's merits main consideration. Please contact Dr. Dewan, 9017 Airlie, LaSalle, Quebec or Tel. 659-3103.

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Begum in distress

Calcutta, (UNI) - An official portrait of India's last Mughal Emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar-II, looks down at his decendants in tattered clothes, sitting on a dusty mat on upswept floor.

The room is dark and damp and the place is a dingy lane in Central Calcutta.

A widow and five children live in grinding poverty and pay the landlord of the ill-lit slum room, a meagre sum of Rs 40 a month as rent. But the landlord sees no reason why he should not throw them out, for the rent they pay is ridiculous and outdated.

Sultana Begum, the widow, is thus facing eviction from the small house she and her children live in.

Sultana Begum's husband, Prince Mirza Mohammed Bedar Bukht, grandson of Bahadur Shah Zafar-II, died early last year, and the pension of Rs 400 the Indian Government was giving him was stopped.

Despite repeated assurances from the government that the pension would be resumed, the Begum is yet to get it.

But the Begum is still hopeful. She is too poor to lose patience.

The Bangladesh Government also declared last year that it would grant the widow a monthly pension of Rs 500. It also made a lumpsum grant of Rs 1,000 to the Begum.

REQUIRED

The Canadian India Times is looking for representatives in Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary, Hamilton, Halifax and other cities with a large Indo-Canadian population.

No previous journalistic experience is needed.

Remuneration will depend upon the quality of reports sent and the quantity used in the paper.

Write immediately with details of background to:

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The Canadian India Times
403 Catherine Street
Ottawa, K1R 5T6.

Tourist arrivals

Saudi youth lead

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nationals of Saudi Arabia constituted the largest share of tourists in the age group 17-30 who arrived in India in 1980. Next in order in this age group were tourists from Sri Lanka, Japan, France, West Germany and Italy.

According to a survey conducted by the Market Research Division of the Department of Tourism, 34.5 per cent of the total tourist arrivals in India in 1980 was shared by tourists in the 17-30 age group, followed by 27.5 per cent in the 31-40 age group.

The survey also shows that most of the tourists arriving in India preferred to travel by air. Statistics show that tourists travelling by air accounted for 88.6 per cent of the total tourist arrivals of 800,150 in 1980. This was an increase of 5.9 per cent over the figures under this category for 1979.

Arrivals by sea were a mere 6.3 per cent and by land 5.1 per cent of the total tourist arrivals in 1980.

But such arrivals by sea increased by 4.5 per cent with 50,017 tourists having arrived by sea in 1980 as compared to 47,859 during 1979. However, arrivals by land fell by 13.7 per cent in 1980, mainly because of the disturbed conditions in some of the neighbouring countries en-route to India from Europe.

Bombay continues to be the major port of entry with 307,075 tourist arrivals during 1980, followed by Delhi with 266,751 arrivals. Both the centres accounted for over 70 per cent of the total foreign tourist traffic.

Boosting tourism in TN

Madras, (UNI) - The State-owned Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) has embarked on an ambitious programme to boost tourist traffic from South East Asia, reports National Herald, an English daily.

The corporation has appointed as its representatives two well known travel agents, one each in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, to operate package tours to Tamil Nadu.

The length of the package tours will vary between a week and a month. Besides booking the air passage, the two travel agents will sell tickets for the extensive road tours that the TTDC operates in Tamil Nadu. The agents will undertake bookings for guest houses run by the TTDC.

Jewellery export

New Delhi, (UNI) - India will export gold and jewellery worth $600 million to the Gulf countries by 1985.

This ambitious target has been set by the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation (HHEC) of India recently in view of the interest shown in these countries for Indian goldwork.

Domesticated tiger dies

Cuttack (Orissa), (UNI) - Khairi, the seven-year-old tigress, who had endeared herself to thousands of tourists at the Simlipal Forest Sanctuary, was put to death last weekend.

The full-grown Bengal tigress began showing symptoms of rabies after having consumed a rabid dog some ten days ago. As no effective treatment was readily available, she was shot dead on Saturday, March 28 after she had mauled two forest guards and Simlipal Project Assistant Director, R.B. Naik.

A much-pampered member of the Project Tiger Director Sarojraj Choudhury's family, Khairi used to share the bed with Mrs. Choudhury and had become fond of human company.

According to a source nearly 12,500 dollars was being spent annually on Khairi.

While still a cub, Khairi had one day strayed away from her parents and was caught by some tribals on the bank of River Khairi in the Simlipal Forest in Orissa. She was presented to the Forest Department in October, 1974, and the Jashipal forest rest house in Mayurbhanj District became her new abode.

Thereafter, Mr. Choudhury carried on experiments and over the years Khairi became almost a much loved member of the Choudhury household as well as visitors to the Simlipal Project.

CONSERVE WILDLIFE

New Delhi, (UNI) - The tiger hunt was a favourite sport for the former British rulers in India. Lord Hardings, Viceroy, had a thatched hut built for him for tiger hunt in 1911 in the Sylvan Mekal hills of the Satpura mountain range in Madhya Pradesh and here he would spend an enjoyable shikar.

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